The Colonization Herald
AND GENERAL REGISTER.

CONDUCTED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

WHATSOEVER YE WOULD THAT MEN SHOULD DO TO YOU, DO YE EVEN SO TO THEM.

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LIBERIA.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE COMMERCIAL ADVERTISER.

MONROVIA, WEST AFRICA, August 8, 1838.

The announcement of a vessel about to sail from this port to the United States is hailed by us all as the signal to commence and wear pens to the pith, in giving to our friends at home the nineteenth edition of the old stereotyped form, "the flourishing condition of Liberia," and what seem to be the oft-repeated versions of the same truths. This can only be accounted for by the fact that we see and hear so little of the doings of the great world, that we become inflated with the idea that the orbit which we circumscribe is the world. Happy for mankind if they all enjoyed the domestic peace and quiet that are experienced in our community's circle; happy indeed if the world was possessed of the industry and contentment which here pervade every breast, and are seen to beam forth in the cheerful, glowing countenances of the free citizens of Liberia. Our growing republic is not convulsed by the factions of deep and designing political demagogues; nor are our agricultural and commercial operations paralyzed by "the removal of the deposites," or the "suspension of specie payments." Our circulating medium, gold, silver and ivory, floats freely throughout the land, and we have a sufficiency of each, *without discount*. So much for the "home of the oppressed" not having been located in the suburbs of, or next neighbour to, the American States.

It is a source of great pleasure to me to be able to inform you that all the colonies are in a prosperous condition. The vigorous exertions and anxious devotedness which characterize the efforts of the citizens to elevate and establish themselves permanently in the possession of privileges, moral and political, almost amount to enthusiasm.

The people are industrious and persevering in their attempts to gain a comfortable livelihood, temperate and economical in their habits, and appear to be really enjoying life.

It is a mistaken idea that among the colonists there are contentious and dissatisfied spirits, who long "for the flesh-pots of Egypt." and desire to turn back and enjoy "the proud man's contumely" in America. No, no; there are here no restless persons, nor any who would give up their possessions in Africa for any station, no matter however elevated, in the country where they cannot have equal rights, but must ever be looked upon as the dark and degraded sons of Ham. Many to whom I have put the question—Would you prefer to return to America, and live bondmen as you have been? have replied, in substance—No, sir; we would rather remain *here*, possessed of half the privileges and happiness that we *now* have, than go back and be *reported* freemen in any of the States.

I have inquired diligently, and I have yet the first man to find who would leave Liberia for a residence in America on any terms.

This account you will find fully corroborated in the numerous letters written by the colonists, and sent to their afflicted brethren throughout the Union. I am aware that it is not credited by some; but if men are not themselves the best judges of their own enjoyments and feelings, and are not to be believed when they thus publicly testify of the blessings and comforts which they possess, I ask, what portion of the community is it that is better qualified to decide? An enlightened and intelligent public will hear and believe, when the different papers and periodicals are daily teeming with the very conclusive letters from the citizens here, describing their happy condition, returning thanks to a generous and benevolent people for having placed them in this country, and praying and beseeching their fellows to come and enjoy with them the sweets of freedom in its broadest acceptation. But if there are any whose perceptive faculties are so very opaque as not to permit them to see and understand how these things can be, they are only such who, *believing*, would stamp the fact with uncertainty.

The colonization scheme is one of the noblest benevolent institutions now in operation. It is an institution that engages the energies and united efforts of the patriot, the philanthropist, and divine—it is no other than giving liberty to the captive, and salvation to the heathen.

It is utterly impossible for you to form a correct estimate of the amount of good that has resulted from the means thus far expended, unless you were here to observe with your own eyes the changes wrought. The man who was a slave in America is here a free citizen; the plebeian and servant there, the lord of the soil here; there the degraded child of affliction, here the claimant and occupant of the highest office in the gift of a free people. Here there are colonists of all professions and trades: governors, divines, lawyers, physicians and mechanics. Here are those who possess wealth and live at ease: here the inhabitants enjoy all the comforts and luxuries of a soil the most fertile, well watered and best timbered that I have ever seen. And here permit me to ask, why do you colonization folks, in every address that you make, speak of the burning sands and barren shores of Africa? Because, in the vast continent of Africa, the Zahara desert is found? Where is the continent that has no desert? Is there not a great desert within the territory of the United States? England, and other European nations, get all their shipbuilding and other timber from Africa. The coast from Senegambia, southward, presents an almost impregnable forest, which contains a much greater variety of trees than you have in the States, and also a sufficiency to supply the world for centuries. But to return. There is here every possible inducement to prompt and stimulate the emigrant to action; a rich soil, a great variety of vegetables, and a ready market. The authorities of this town have recently established a daily market, which overflows with the products of the country. The comforts possessed by the farmers, mechanics, and merchants, far surpass the opinion that you would form of them, unless you could be present, to be received into houses as splendidly furnished and well provided with all the luxuries that are usually found in the possession of citizens of refined and populous towns.

The moral and religious state of society is very good; this is emphatically a church-going community. In this town we have a "moral friendship society," a "union sisters of charity," a "female benevolent society," a "missionary society," a flourishing "temperance society," and to the above list we have recently added a "Liberia Lyceum." The lyceum is well attended, and promises to bestow much lasting good upon the citizens.

From the above fact it is evident that your cause is a good one, and has been blessed and prospered by Heaven's hand; it has found favour in the sight of God and man: it is fraught with considerations the most ennobling, it demands from every well-wisher of the human family his suffrage, and appeals directly for assistance to all Christian believers in the coming millennium.

Will the time not shortly arrive when you can successfully petition the Congress of the United States for an American vessel to be sent here, that the slave-trade may be effectually broken up along the coast of Liberia? Such a force is greatly needed to protect the Liberia coast trade, and to put a speedy check to the invasions of the slaver. The community here is too young and weak to put down the evil, and being so, for want of sufficient aid, is obliged to regard with seeming indifference the numerous Baltimore clippers and other vessels that are frequently seen on our borders, and known to be slave ships. Any indignities offered to the slaver and his vessels would be revenged upon our colonial traders, perhaps to the total destruction of all the trading schooners, which would at once entirely destroy the trafficking carried on by our small craft—cut off the communication, by sea, with the seaboard settlements, and thus stop one of the principal sources of wealth to the colony.

As I am not *personally* engaged in any department of the colonization cause, but only an observer in a part of its wide field of operations, permit me to take the liberty of making a few suggestions that have occurred to me. As the society's object can only be accomplished by efficient men, and at a considerable expenditure of means, it should be careful to send, in all cases, emigrants who can appreciate the privileges and advantages here offered to them. They should, if possible, (for several years to come) be men of intelligence and personal property, and, in every instance, those of industrious and temperate habits. Individuals who will not work at home, should not be sent here to be a charge on the public.

It is vitally important to the growth of the colonies that attention be given to these particulars. Send men of intelligence, industrious men, healthy and wealthy men, and you need have no fears about the final success of your undertaking. Ten persons combining in themselves these qualifications are worth more to the colony than one hundred who scarcely "know their right hand from the left." I urge these matters because when they land here they are their own masters, and if they lack ambition, they suffer themselves to become a public charge in a few months.

Again, the different benevolent societies, whether colonization, missionary, or educational, all being supported by the gratuitous donations of the people, should require that *all* their officers give to the public, through their several boards of managers, an account of their conduct and labours while in the employ of their respective societies. This, I think, would have a salutary effect in several ways.

The agents and officers sent here by the different societies should be men who would stamp indelibly upon this embryo nation a character for temperance and morality, and be the first to lead it upward to high attainments in the arts, sciences, and all that pertains to advancing the people and preparing them for an exalted station among the nations of the earth.

Since my residence in Africa, my eyes have been compelled to view things differently to what they did in America. Having been educated in a non-slaveholding State, I was daily taught to look upon the man who held slaves as a monster scarcely human, and at all times to regard those engaged in or holding slaves as participating in crimes of the deepest dye; and, notwithstanding I have resided in one, and travelled in several slave States, and *never* beheld the shade of a shadow of an attempt at the cruelties said to be practised (daily) upon the slaves, yet it was impossible for me to overcome early prejudices, or to believe any thing else than that slavery, as there practised, was the greatest evil in the States, or in the world, which I *now* very much doubt. That slavery, as it exists in some parts of the universe, is an evil unparalleled by any other, is most true; but that it is burdened in the United States with all the cruelties and barbarities that the race is subject to, is very far from the fact.

Slavery in the United States, in its worst form, and under the lash, is not as bad as slavery in Africa in its mildest form. It is a well-known truth that in Western Africa nine-tenths of the whole population are in a state of slavery. The females are all sold at an early age, to be, when they grow up, wives or *beasts of burden*, as their proprietors may require. If the majority here were not slaves, how would they ever get into the foreign slave-dealers' hands? Where do the Portuguese and Americo-Spaniards get their cargoes of slaves? By plundering and ravishing the country? No. By seizing and tearing them from their habitations along the coast? No. Nor yet by hunting them from place to place with dogs; but they are obtained from the Kings of the country, who send and bring them from the far interior in droves, and sell them as cattle to the highest bidder. They are sent in hundreds from the interior to the "slave-factories," and sold for tobacco, powder, guns, cloth, and whiskey. Our coast is thickly settled by natives, who dwell secure from molestation by the slavers; they are not stolen and gathered promiscuously by every and any means; nor are they deprived of their liberty when they are forced to leave these shores—they only change masters. Slaves they are, and such they have been to the most savage rulers, who inflict upon them the severest punishments, and feel free to kill, to eat, or to throw them alive upon the funeral pile, at pleasure. Slavery in the States, though an evil, cannot possibly be as great a one as it is here. There thousands hear the word of God, and become soundly converted to the Christian faith; here, hitherto, they have had no such opportunities, and it appears evident that God is about to overrule, through the instrumentality of the Colonization Society, this, as he did Joseph's slavery in Egypt, and thereby bring about a great and lasting blessing to this whole country. I have heard men, who have been taken from this country in slave ships, and returned by the Colonization Society, bless God that ever they were bought by the slaver and carried to the States, where they heard the gospel preached, and had their dark understandings illuminated by Divine grace.*

Gentlemen in America may say the cruel atrocities heaped upon the coloured man in the South are not paralleled in any country; but if they will only come abroad and suffer themselves to fall into the hands of a native king, or even a "headman," they will experience to their sorrow punishments equally unheard of, nay, in a thousand degrees more painful than any of the "torturing inventions of the southern planters." Coloured men may also talk of the wrongs which they sustain, of the privations they endure, and of the inferior ranks they are compelled to fill in society, and point the listener to the degraded station that they occupy in the public mind, in consequence of some of their brethren being slaves in the South; when, if it had not been for that "same hell-deserving practise," they themselves would *now* (if in existence at all) be prowling *these* African forests, with the thousands of untaught heathens who inhabit them, as naked as when the light first dawned upon them. They would be here bondmen, the slaves of slaves, used as beasts of burden, and at all times liable to decapitation; they would be without any knowledge of a God or a hereafter, and suffering all the barbarities of *savage* invention. I say without any knowledge of a God, or a hereafter, because I have seen them examined before the courts of justice by an interpreter, and they say their "gree grees" are only of service during life, that "when they die they die," and that no part of them continues to live—they laugh to scorn the idea. They say they know nothing about what becomes of them after death, that if they do wrong their gree grees will kill them, and that "they all die, and all rot, and that be the end." Such are the privileges and enjoyments from which they are *torn*, when sold to slavers, and forced to leave "their happy-homes and peaceful country" for a life of slavery, with Christian privileges, in another hemisphere.

I do not wish to be understood as advocating slavery. I am firmly set in opposition to it; but, as a Christian man, who desires to see his fellow-man in the most comfortable condition, and enjoying Christian liberty and Gospel privileges, I do say that if the colonization cause is to go down, and not to be further prosecuted—if the coloured men in the United States are not to be established here in colonies, to assist the Christian missionary in his efforts to bring this people to the knowledge of truth—then slavery in America is a glorious blessing to Africa, and the means overruled by Providence to lead some few of the perishing millions of this land from darkness to light—from idolatry to the true and living God.

This assertion is conscientiously made, because I believe it impossible for the missionary ever to succeed in winning these tribes to the Christian faith unless aided by colonies of the free people of colour.

Here is the country where slavery with all its legitimate and concomitant horrors exists. Africa is the mother that clings to it as her only, her dearest offspring; here is the land for the "Friend of Man" to commence operations, and the believer in "equal rights" and the "Liberator" to begin their work of charity. And here is the country so deeply died in the sin and blood of slavery as to require all the abolitionists and colonizations, and their united means and labours for centuries, in clearing its skirts and removing the foul stains that make her the the prize-money of other nations.

The members of a certain society in the United States, who are much opposed to the Colonization Society, and equally so to the giving of their means for benevolent purposes, and also to the dealing in human flesh and blood, but who are *very anxious that the native African should be taught*, if they were here, (of which there is no likelihood) would find their way to usefulness completely closed up; for, in order to be *permitted* to teach females, your missionaries are under the necessity of purchasing them when children, and paying for them as we pay for other animals.

But, sir, I have filled my sheet with matter foreign to what I intended when I commenced. My object in writing to you was to give a short history of my course of practice since here, and the result; but my letter is now nearly completed, and I have only room to say that my mind concerning the climate of Africa, and particularly this *notorious* Cape, is the same now that it was years before I set foot upon it; I have had no reasons nor just grounds for changing my opinion in any one respect. The diseases in this climate are very manageable, provided the practitioner does not *manufacture* them. The fevers are positively of a simple grade, and, as I said above, if not *tortured* into complexed forms, are easily subdued.

It is better than a year since my arrival here; in that time I have fully acclimated white men and white women, young and old, married and single, and there is not now a diseased or implicated organ in any of them. I do not wish to be understood as saying that the influences of this climate are not dangerous—not at all; I only say that judicious persons, with proper attention and care, may completely rise above them all. Your missionaries are all in good health; those sent out by the ship Emperor have not had fever enough, at any time, to require regular attention, nor *any* for several months.

Among the colonists I have been practising daily, since a short time after my arrival; and to the present I have lost only two patients, (children) who were regularly mine.

My own case is still a rare one. I have been up rivers day and night, out in the woods, and in almost every degree and variety of exposure, and have had no fever for four or five months, and then only a touch of half a day's duration.

Three dollars would purchase at any drug store the full amount of all the medicines that I have taken since my residence in the colony.

P. S.—A vessel said to be a pirate, visited our harbour on Sabbath last, August 5th, but left without offering any violence to the vessels in the harbour. She was well manned, and mounted with pivot guns—would not let the Kroomen board her—flag Portuguese—officers Americans—fitted out at the "third city in the Union," and said to be commanded by a Captain Taylor, or Williams. The officers were dressed man-of-war style.

* Several of these individuals are now preaching the Gospel to the Heathen and others.

To Lewis Tappan, Esq., New York, U. S. A. via London.

Very Dear Sir,—In looking over some memorandums of my correspondence with the Colonization Societies in America, I find a letter, addressed by you to me, when in North Carolina, the subject matter whereof having been replied to at that time, the review at this date seems only to call up the remembrance of former kindnesses, an acknowledgement whereof I would on no proper occasion omit to make. This premised, I now set me to the task of making you acquainted, so far as my own knowledge, derived from observation and information, extends, with the particulars of our situation, and the prospects connected with these settlements of the Colony in Liberia. I was sent here under the patronage of the Young Men's Colonization Society of Pennsylvania and New York, for the purpose of making developements of the resources of the soil in Africa. I accordingly arrived on the 7th day of February, 1838, on board the barque Marine, but had no communication from the shore until the next day; a note was sent to the Captain, Buckmar, enquiring whether his was the vessel containing the expedition looked for from the United States. We were then on the eve of starting for the shore, and, of course, we did not wait to have any further correspondence on the subject, but pushed off, and on the 8th day of February, my feet first pressed the soil of wretched Afriea. The situation of these two places, Edina and Bassa Cove, is picturesque enough, and were the people and the Government industrious and efficient, something of the delightful might be made out of them; this, however, is altogether gratuitous on my part, for panegyric from me is the last thing looked for by the Colonizationists; and again, the climate, soil, and economy here forbid that any thing of importance shall be accomplished, at least for some time to come.

I was, on landing, walked up to a tolerable looking house, and introduced to the Rev. Governor J. J. Matthias. This Governor had heard of me, my purpose, design, intention, &c. &c., and every accommodation and assistance should be given me, as it had been particularly requested by Gov. Buchanan. But, lo! the sad discrepancy there oft times is betwixt our practices and our professions; our accommodations were proposed in some half-a-dozen pens made of poles, about the size of such as a southern white man, in his fury, would snatch up to beat a negro with; and these pens covered with thatch—do you know what that is?—the foliage of shrub called bamboo, tied on, so as when dry to admit the water by the most easy and convenient means, next to leaving the the roof uncovered. These I utterly refused to go into; and had to hire houses from the people of Edina, at a great expense, for the whole of our expedition, seventy in number.

My next essay was to made provision for such of our people as could get on shore, during that day, as nothing could be landed from the vessel. I was very readily furnished by the Governor's store-keeper with a barrel of rotten corn meal, for which, owing to my having none to return in place of it, I had to pay the pretty little trifle of $8. My next application to his Excellency, was on the subject of land. I found that I was destined to a settlement up the St. John's, six miles from the bar; and that on my taking the oath of allegiance, I could have what quantity of land I wished. But now comes the tug of war. After a delay of four weeks, and so much valuable time lost, I was presented with the Constitution of Bassa Cove, manufactured for the special use of Hankerson or some other person's slaves. Surprise, indignation, and every other temper such an insult was calculated to inspire, aroused me almost to a transport of fury, and I vowed, so help me God! to die, rather than take an oath to support such a Constitution. I theu told his governorship, that I had come from the United States to be freed from the tyranny of the white man, and that I should not be easily brought again to submit to it: but, my dear sir, 'tis but a vain boast, for all the while that we are here we are subject to it. Fancy to yourself an establishment—call it a colony, or plantation, or what you will—with but a single white man at the head of its affairs; the laws that govern it framed by him, or by his predecessor, which is the same; himself the executive, and so down to the veriest lackey in the concern, all of his appointment; see this same white man in the possession of, and accountable to nobody that can bring him to account for, all the funds contributed by the gullies of Colonization; see him without the smallest degree of mercantile knowledge, laying on and charging enormous advances, say one or two hundred per cent. on the very necessaries procured by voluntary contributions, gotten together under pretence of benefitting the coloured man in Africa, and of which he receives not one iota beyond what he buys, and must pay for at the enormous advances charged on their original cost in the United States.

And for whose benefit are these charges made? not the individual donors, not the managers of the Society, not the Colonists; who then? why just Nobody, that father of all mischiefs. But it is characteristic enough of any man, who would come here and satisfy himself with the blushing honours of being called Governor, over a few crazy freed negroes and mulattoes. You may be disposed to smile at the application I make of the term crazy freed negroes, &c., but, Sir, listen to facts, and then judge of its propriety. In the first place, they have aimed at producing certain effects by unapt causes; 2dly, they have exerted reasoning, if such it can be called, without proper data to ground their opinions on; and 3dly, they have striven to deduce certain consequences from illy founded premises. Now to explain this—some of the Colonists, on their arrival in this country, were in possession of some amount of money; and instead of remembering themselves to be no more than exiles from their native home and husbanding their resources, they set up a kind of aristocracy, and in order to maintain their dignity, spent more than all they had. A second class, are those who went upon the plan of living by their wits, and of all the devil's inventions to keep people poor, this has most wonderfully succeeded; for how can men thrive by such means, when there is not in their community subjects for their wits to be exercised upon. And a third class, ashamed to beg and too proud to work, went upon the trading scheme, for finding the gullibility of the natives and the easy and cheap rate for which their stuffs could be had, they chose rather to compound with their backs and stomachs until they could no longer be trusted, and so their revenues ceased; and finally, every one, until now, seems to have forgotten that we are to obtain our bread in the sweat of our face. You may fancy this a distorted picture of affairs in Liberia, but, Sir, I would rather my right hand should perish from my body, than it should pen a lie: for there is not an individual man who does not eat the beef and pork of some Society, or who has not ate of it until he has almost become choked therewith, but will tell you, if he had it to do again, he would prefer to die rather than come here. I have conversed with several, not only of these settlements, but many belonging to the old colony, and have asked them why they have suffered such lies favoring these Colonies to be circulated and published in the United States?

Why, Sir, say the more intelligent, misery, you know, likes company! and, Sir, say another class, I did not like to become conpicuous in any way, either for or against, the society. And, say a third class, we were afraid as we were here, if we said any thing no more people would come, and we should be too weak to stand against the natives. And, say a fourth, which forms the great majority, we know nothing about what has been said, only this we know, that if we had the means of getting away we would not stay here. Now, Sir, it is my being involved with such a wretched pack that gives acerbity to my temper. Would I not rather die, than do the devil's work in thus deceiving people to their ruin; for it does seem to me, that with the one exception of Mr. Nobody making money out of the goods sent here, instead of giving them, as I always thought or understood was intended to be done, to the poor perishing colonists for their help and support, the rest is only a well schemed project of destruction. It has been said that the Colony at Monrovia was improving. No such thing, Sir; IT IS DYING, but may not expire before its sisters, Edina and Bassa Cove, shall have taken its disease (the slave trade,) and both go off together.

It has been said that the slave trade had disappeared from this part of the coast. If ever it was the case, there is now a fearful reaction; for the first vessel I saw near the shore, a few miles above, and in sight of Monrovia, was shown to me as a slaver; and at Crew Town, a place in sight of our Governor's seat, I have seen divers vessels, of whom it was said to me, they are slavers, Sir. And so far from the slave trade being at all diminished, I am of opinion that it now is carried on around, about and amongst us to a fearfully alarming degree. Again it has been said, that the establishment of Christian Colonies of free blacks on this coast, would tend to Christianize Africa. I always doubted the fact, and now I know it to be FALSE. So very far from this being the case, I will venture to affirm, that could a correct analysis be made of the progression of mind, and the weight of physical influence in the two castes, that the preponderance would be shown in favour of the colonist approximating nearest to the Heathen's barbarity. True, there have been some very few converts of natives to Christianity; but for every one so converted, five Americans have pulled off their clothes and gone naked: and there is not a child now growing up in the Colony who would not prefer speaking Hebo or Bassa to common English, and not only using their jargon bnt also adopting their manners and customs, and such, to me, are fearful signs as regards Colonization.

The land on the sea coast, you in all probability have been informed, is sandy, and in many places low and marshy, and hence it is very poor and good for nothing; but as you go towards the interior it is gently undulating, with here and there a bluff, making to the river, as the mounts or capes do on the sea. This land is of a mixed quality, and some very good spots may be selected for farm settlements. Such an one is, I think, selected by our masters for our occupancy: my having refused to become a citizen of this realm by swearing to be a white man's slave, threw me out of the pale of regal favour, and I had to take a lease of 600 acres, to enable me to carry out my verbal promise, made to the society who sent me here. I think it probable we shall succeed, though I have already made myself sick, and as there is no alternative but pump or drown, I will work so long as I can, and quit when I can do no more. I think it unnecessary to enter into a detail of the peculiar barbarousness of this country, and its yet more barbarous natives; though if there were to be seen nothing more than its roads and waters, it would, in the "tout ensemble," be a tolerable prospect: but oh! the millions of millions of ants that every where cover the ground, and mounds of earth, yclep'd bug-a-bug hills, thrown up here, there, and every where, you know not how or why; and the chattering of monkeys, and the unearthly sound of the whaw-whaw, enough in themselves to drive civilization back to its original darkness, and make chaos come again.

I believe I will weary you no longer with this detail, but if you desire it, you can have an abundance more of the same relation.

I know not that our experiment will make for or against the Colonization scheme, as I am not yet prepared to say, whether people ought to come here or not; this is one of the objects I have in view, and to arrive legitimately at these conclusions, will require further experiments than I have yet made. When my conclusions are formed either way (all's like to me,) you shall have it; and, in the meantime, I beg you to send me some American papers, as I should like to know what is going on in the states, not that I feel much interest in these matters at the present, but that it would be agreeable to know the ascendancy of parties as they occur, forasmuch as we expect them to change.

Accept my high consideration,
And am, yours most respectfully,
LOUIS SHERIDAN.

EDINA, LIBERIA, July 16, 1838.

From the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.

SYNOPSIS OF LATE LIBERIA PAPERS.

A gang of armed natives having been discovered loitering in the precincts of Millsburg for several days, suspicions were excited that they were on the look-out for slaves. They were arrested, and on examination it was ascertained that they were in the employ of a slave factory at Digbey, and that they had been supplied with goods to the amount of four slaves, whom it was their purpose to seize from among the natives who were living in Millsburg, under the protection of the colony. As no direct act could be proved upon them, they were of course discharged; but their goods were seized and confiscated, under the act of the Legislature, which forbids any goods, wares or merchandize to be introduced into the colony, unless under the inspection of the officers, regularly authorized for that purpose. How many hundred times have the immediate abolitionists charged it upon the colonies of Liberia that they were promoters of the slave trade!

The brig Mail, Captain Nowill, from New Orleans, arrived at Monrovia on the 8th of July, with emigrants. The American newspapers received by the Mail, threw the editor of the Herald into a speculative humor, on the subject of American politics. We quote a paragraph:

"The contest (in the Senate) between those intellectual giants, Messrs. Webster and Calhoun, reported in these papers, has, however, given rise to some little moral musing. All the papers that have reached the colony, seem pretty unanimous in the opinion that the contest has resulted rather unhappily for the gentleman from the south. Indeed, to use a down-east expression—Webster has rowed him up "Salt river." So say the papers. Now the speculations to which this has given rise, have afforded us no little pleasure. Our South Carolina and Georgia friends here, seem to think that the papers we have seen are the organs of a party and their opinion merely the echo of party feeling. It is impossible, they say, for northern men to do any thing with the southerners; and that there are men at the south superior to Calhoun, who, should they enter the lists with Webster, would fully sustain the character of the south. We know very little about it ourselves; but it reminds us of a boy who, when about to receive the reward of his waywardness at the hand of another, exclaimed, if you can beat me, you can't beat uncle Bob. We have never seen Webster; we have been hearing about him ever since we heard of ourselves; and we know of no men at whom we are more anxious to have a peep, than at Messrs. Webster and Clay. To us there is something in intellectual superiority, the ability to think with closeness and clearness, and the facility to clothe these thoughts in elegant, lucid and forcible language, and all devoted to the interest of one's country, infinitely more attractive than all the soul-stirring, but ferocious greatness, that clustered around the car of the victor, or all the pomp aud unmeaning pageantry lavished upon the person of royalty."

PROSPECTIVE INDEPENDENCE OF THE COLONIES.—The colonies are beginning to feel so strong and so confident of continued growth and prosperity, that the editor of the Herald has commenced discussing the prospective independence of the settlements. In the course of a long article upon this subject, he says:

"We anticipate the day, and earnestly and ardently look forward to it, when our own strength, moral and physical, will enable us with perfect fidelity to all former obligations, to throw off all allegiance to the various foreign associations, which now, for the best of reasons, are suffered to control, and thereby in some measure to dismember us, and take the government into our own hands, as one compact and undivided whole. This said, we may be permitted to express our opinion of the circumstances of the old colony, maugre all the uncharitable attempts that have been made to repudiate it. The colony, for the last two years, leaving the newly arrived emigrants out of the calculation, has cost the Colonization Society comparatively nothing. By a regulation made by the Society, some three or four years ago, granting the people the privilege of levying taxes, customs, &c., and of applying them as they think proper (misconceived in its design, as we

humbly think,) sums of money have been raised, which no one, before the attempt was made, would have thought possible. In 1836, the amount of duties secured was about $3,300. In 1837 it was something less. Since September, 1837, the amount paid into the treasury is $2,000; and there is now in bonds and open accounts due the Commonwealth, for duties on goods introduced into the colony, the sum of $800, according to the Collector's accounts, rendered to the Council at its session this month. This amount has all been applied to the purposes of internal improvement; to just such purposes, without detailing them, as the Society's funds were applied to anterior to this regulation, and to which they would have continued to be applied, were it not for these said regulations. We know not of a single improvement, excepting the public farm, that has been made by the Society's funds for the last two years."

CALUMNIES OF THE COLONIES.—On the subject of the idle stories that have been propagated by the abolitionists in this country, the Herald gives the following indication of their origin:

"Were it not for the good opinion of some abroad, for whom we entertain the highest respect, we would never for a moment advert to any scandal that might be published against us. In one or two instances, disappointed colonists have chimed in their pitiful howl with the slanderous chorus. These, from some circumstances in America—some white man perhaps had clapped them on the shoulder with' 'Jack, you're a smart fellow,' swelled them with a conceit of themselves that only prepared them for deep and cutting mortification here. But more frequently those reports have gone from ignorant captains, who came out to Africa with all their prejudice of *caste* as fresh and as vigorous as when they were in America. Though their reception here in the intercourse of business has been altogether such as one man has a right to expect of another, yet it has not been altogether such as they have been accustomed to receive from coloured men. The idea of equality, even for a few days, they can't endure, and therefore go off, and report us idle, lazy and proud. To defend our people from the charge of laziness, farther than to state facts, would be to blow our own trumpet; we therefore drop the subject, after we declare that we would equally regret any unkind and uncourteous conduct to strangers, and a pitiful fawning spirit, that would yield an inch to such mean spirited visitors, beyond the line of manly conduct."

LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.—Having heard of several suffering families in the settlement of Caldwell, the Ladies' Benevolent Society of Monrovia deputed a committee to visit and examine into their condition. The result was an appeal to the benevolence of their fellow citizens of Monrovia, for farther means of relief, they having only one hundred dollars in their treasury. The lady-collectors succeeded in raising seventy dollars in two days, which is more than our female benevolent committees have been able to raise in the same space of time, in this city.

The business of tanning leather has been commenced in the colony, with success, so that they can now supply themselves with leather and shoes.

On the 20 h of July, a little vessel called the Natchez, built at the colony of Mississippi, in Africa, cast anchor in the harbour of Monrovia. The Herald says —"This fine little vessel, commenced by Mr. D. Johnstone, and finished by workmen who went down from this place for the purpose, is 29 feet on the keel, 12 feet across the deck, and 5 feet in the hold, and is consequently of the burthen of 18 30 95 tons. Success to Mississippi in Africa! May her future progress be equal to her beginning.

LIBERIA LYCEUM.—Since the formation of this association, some few collections of shells, rocks, minerals and plants, have been made, and a few books presented. Arrangements are on foot for a commodious room, in which the specimens and books may be kept, and displayed to advantage. The questions that have been already discussed before the Lyceum, are, first, whether more information is to be gained by reading than travelling. Secondly, which has been of most advantage to man, the magnetic needle, or the printing press And, thirdly, in substance, whether man, without revelation, would have had any knowledge of the Deity. That for the next debate is, whether it is policy to admit, indiscriminately, persons of all nations and colour to become citizens of Liberia.

On the 18th of July, a meeting of the citizens was called, to take into consideration a letter written by Doctor Goheen, on the state of the colony. After the organization of the meeting, the letter, which is to be found in the African Repository, was read, whereupon it was resolved, that the thanks of this meeting be presented to Doctor Goheen for his able refutation of the many slanders circulated against the town of Monrovia.

From the Liberia Herald.

The following queries have been sent out by the Board. They were originally prepared as topics of inquiry by the Rev. R. Turner, who was expected to come out to the coast. We have taken upon us to answer them thus publicly, because we deem them of public concern. We take them up and attempt to answer them in order.

1. What additional territory can probably be obtained on the coast north of Cape Mesurado? It is not certain that we possess any on the north, beyond St. Paul's River. On the south, our territory extends to Junk River. It would be desirable to own what lies between that and the Bassa Cove settlement.

2. Whether any considerable tracts of land suitable for farming, can be obtained in the interior country.

3. We have heard that Boatswain, a powerful chief, in the Bo-Poro country, is dead—learn who succeeds him, and whether it is likely any portion of that country, which lies adjacent to our territory, on the St. Paul's River, can be obtained.

4. At what points of the coast can produce, such as rice, palm oil, &c. be most certainly supplied?

5. Is Indian corn, cotton, sugar, or coffee, cultivated to any extent, either by emigrants or natives?

6 Have any mills been erected or introduced, either for grinding the sugar cane or corn?

7. What progress has been made by the agricultural association, lately formed in the colony?

ANSWERS.

1. All the land between this place and Edina, with the exception of a small space south of Boolam Town, is now in the possession of the Colonization Society. It would not be desirable nor beneficial for the Old Colony to approach nearer to the territories of the New York and Pennsylvania societies, than its present boundaries. The newly acquired territory of Little Bassa is an important and valuable acquisition, and opens a wide field for agricultural and commercial enterprise. The Society has no land north of the St. Paul's, except the small tract ceded to the colony as an indemnification for the destruction of Logan's property.

2 No effort having yet been made to acquire territory at any distance from the coast, we dare only hazard a conjecture as to the possibility of obtaining possessions in the interior. Yet success in all other endeavours to negociate with the lords of the soil for land, affords ground for hope that prudent and well timed applications would not be altogether fruitless. It is a point of considerable doubt, whether the possession of such land would be of any present practical utility. It is far less a matter of doubt that the occupancy of such land would involve expense and difficulty, probably bloodshed. The utility may be doubted of leaving the abundant fertile lands on the margin, and in the vicinity of the St. Paul's River, where the settlers would be compact and in a posture of defence, and mutual assistance, and extending and diffusing through the country where, from the nature of their location they must be an easy prey to the cupidity of their neighbours, and where they might be entirely cut off from any assistance from the other settlements.

3. Boatswain has been a long time dead, but a successor has not been declared, till when nothing of importance can be done by the Kodanhs. The reply to the second query, we deem equally applicable to this.

4. If the windward coast is referred to, palm oil can be obtained in very large quantities in its season, from Little Bassa, inclusive, to Cape Palmas: perhaps in larger quantities in the vicinity of Trade Town, than at any other points. A large quantity has been purchased in this settlement this season and the natives will extend the supply in proportion to the encouragement they meet in selling it. Next year, we have no doubt, the quantity will be doubled. Rice in the ordinary state of things, can be bought along the coast from Monrovia to Palmas. The most prominent points for this article, are from Kroo country to some distance below Cape Palmas. From various circumstances, there has been and is yet an unusual scarcity of this article along the coast. We have heard that it is scarce at Cape Palmas, and as difficult to be obtained there as here.

5. None of those cultivated to any extent neither by the colonists nor the natives. More corn and sugar cane have been cultivated this year, than in any preceding; but as their cultivation is in its infancy, it would be a misrepresentation to reply in the affirmative.

6. No mill yet introduced, either for grinding the sugar cane or corn. Since the cultivation of sugar has been commenced, a strong confidence has been indulged that the society would introduce a mill into the colony, and as it was regarded rather as an experiment, private individuals have been waiting the result of a trial, by the Society. There are a few hand mills used by families for grinding corn.

7. The agricultural association has yet done nothing. Various causes entirely beyond the control of the colonists have rendered it prudent to delay the commencement of operations. Whether when these causes cease to operate, which is now nearly the case, the subscribers will take hold of the business, is beyond our ability to say. Many of the persons interested in the association, have since its formation commenced individual operations.

Conforming to the customs of other countries we propose for the future to give, in addition to our usual prices current of foreign commodities, those of our own production. We commence by putting down fresh beef at 12½ cents per pound; mutton 12 1-2 do; pork, 16 do; rice $2 50 a bushel or 4 cents per lb; potatoes $1 per bushel; cassada, 1 ct. per lb; green corn 25 cents per dozen ears; fowls, $3 per dozen; pigs from $2 to $3 each. We omit a large number of edible roots and fruits, as unentitled to so high consideration. The supply in potatoes, cassada and pigs good and the demand fair. Rice scarce. A few bushels came in from Junk a few days ago.

To the Editors of the Commercial Advertiser.

Gentlemen:—The following is an extract from a letter I have just received from Dr. W. Johnson, the acting Governor of the united colonies of Bassa Cove and Edina. I take the liberty to send it to you, to be disposed of as you think proper.

Respectfully yours,
JOHN J. MATTHIAS.

"BASSA COVE, Aug. 2d, 1838.

Rev. J. J. Matthias—

"Dear Sir,—A brig arrived to-day from Sinoe, where she has been to transport emigrants; and an opportunity is presented by her return to New Orleans, of communicating to you. From your acquaintance with the general course of affairs here, there will be but little novelty in my letter, things having gone on much as usual since your departure. The colony I believe is quite as prosperous as ever. Health is generally good; and though our stock of merchandize and provisions is much reduced, yet there is very little complaint of any want. From the best information that I can obtain, I conclude that the crop of rice is three or four times as great as it was last year. We have planted 2000 coffee trees, and Messrs. Sheridan & Savage 8000, intending to increase their number to 100,000. Mr. Sheridan is more and more disposed, as he observes the success of agriculture, to prosecute it on a larger scale.

"He has appeared to be quite friendly—has made no trouble, except by the bad calculations he has made for the emigrants, and the expense we have consequently incurred. He was inexperienced in the country, and, I think, the circumstances of the emigrants should have been investigated, as they were liable to fall into our hands sooner or later, and that he should have agreed to carry them through the six months, or have delivered them and their property to us. He has been in bad health for some time past, but has not applied to me for advice. He is active in conducting the Sunday school in Edina.

"Messrs. Corothers and Benson have planted 4000 coffee trees, which are doing well, and many others, a large number.

"Mr. Humphries has deceased, after lingering with a pulmonary affection until he was extremely emaciated. I intend to have the highland, at this end of the B. plantation, cleared at one contract as soon as the drys commence. It is the only good coffee land that we have in its neighborhood, and is of great value.

"Green appears to be a very honest good man, but has the intermittent fever frequently; and Wesley and James have it occasionally. For my part I am well, except for occasional fits of indigestion. I weighed 6 lbs. more a short time ago than when I started from America.

"Mr. Draper is about planking his vessel; she measures 23 tons, and will be totally different in workmanship and appearance from the small craft at the Cape, and I think no disgrace to an American port.

"The mill [a wind saw mill] is ready to be raised, except the framing of some more braces and making pins. I have been the cause of much delay, for the want of time and strength to make brace patterns. Have been obliged to do a great part of the marking out the timber for framing with my own hands, and was for some time thus employed either in the afternoons or all day.

"We have ploughed and planted the kitchen garden, but few of the American seeds came up. Our ploughs are too small and awkwardly made, and by no means fit to till the ground, which is covered with grass, and filled with roots. We need two horse ploughs—we want jacks. The vessels now in harbor took 30 of these from the Cape de Verds to Sinoe.

"There is a general intention expressed by those who have farms south of St. John's, to cultivate them in the next drys, and I hope to have established a good sugar plantation. A small wind mill, which would cost about $300, might be built by two persons, and the wind is as good there as on the beach. The two farms would contain 96 acres, and would be a source of great profit to them, and benefit to the colony.

"There are seven farms very eligibly located at Bexley, for the settlement of as many emigrant families by the next expedition, if it does not arrive before we can get the place prepared for them, and I intend to engage Frank to clear 40 acres for a good plantation, to be situated on 3d street rather than on the river, so as to break open the country and facilitate the settlement of emigrants. I can contract with him for 400 bars.

"I find that a good fort can be built at Bexley of the rocks in the river, nearly as cheap as was estimated for a block house. During the drys we shall have a most excellent selection of granite blocks from the river, and if not used for this, they will be for some other use of less importance. It is our opinion that the neighboring chiefs will be more ready to sell their land upon having such a fort erected near them, and also, that it may probably be the means of opening trade with the Mandings' country. Our trade is now with the nations more limited than it has been heretofore, and so must continue as long as so many English vessels and factories are on the coast, with goods cheaper and more saleable than ours.

"The Presbyterian church is nearly finished.

"The citizens of Edina are removing their fences, and will finish after I shall have done surveying the town: nearly all the space allotted for the town is now taken up, and I shall lay out Fourth and Fifth streets.

"I think seriously of teaching a school again six months or a year, provided I am relieved from my present duties, should I be appointed by the society.

"The vessel now unexpectedly sails. I have just now for the first time thought that this might be published; if so, do not expose my careless and loose style."

"Very respectfully and humbly yours,
"W. JOHNSON."

From the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.

A letter from Louis Sheridan, a late emigrant to Liberia, addressed to Lewis Tappan of this city, has been published and extensively circulated, accompanied by a letter from Mr. Tappan himself, in the peculiarly conciliatory style for which that gentleman is distinguished. Fortunately, however, this splenetic effusion has seen the light at a time when the Rev. John Seys, Rev. John J. Matthias, Rev. George Brown, and Capt. Waters are all here to explain, and certify its true character.

The two communications following were published in the Evening Post of Saturday, that paper having given a favorable notice of Mr. Tappan's circular. Where either of the gentlemen signing the papers given below, is known, their testimony will be conclusive. We commend the forbearance with which they treat the authors of this new device of the enemies of Colonization.

We learn that the testimony of all the gentlemen above named, in refutation of the statements in Messrs. Tappan's and Sheridan's letter, is at the service of any who feel interested in the subject. Two of them are expected to sail for Africa on Saturday next.

To the Editor of the Evening Post:

200 MULBERRY ST., N. Y.
November 30, 1838.

Sir,—Your paper of the 28th inst. contains an allusion to a letter purporting to be from Louis Sheridan, of Bassa Cove, West Africa, to Lewis Tappan, of this city.

The printed letter was handed to me a few days since, but like other productions of a similar character from the enemies of African colonization, I thought it carried on its face its own refutation. It has, however, been suggested to me by a friend, that its representations might do harm among colored people at least.

Will you please allow me, therefore, to say through your paper, that I am fully prepared to refute its calumnious and wrong statements, and shall willingly do so if the friends of colonization shall deem the letter worthy of notice.

While engaged in writing this note, Capt. Waters, the particular friend of Mr. Sheridan, came in. I put into his hand the printed letter and requested him to give me a note expressive of his views respecting it, which I herewith subjoin.

With great respect,
I am, &c.
JOHN J. MATTHIAS.

I was in Liberia, and residing at Bassa Cove for about three months after the arrival of Mr. Sheridan—saw him, and conversed with him two or three times a week during this time, and was probably better acquainted with his affairs than any other person in Liberia. He made me his confidant. I have often thought that Mr. Sheridan was laboring under an alienation of mind during the latter part of the time that I was in Liberia, and I do believe that the letter sent to Mr. Tappan was written at such time. I farther believe that Mr. Sheridan will, in six months from this date, contradict some, if not all the statements which he has made to Mr. Tappan. There is no man in Liberia for whom I have a higher regard than for Louis Sheridan, and I should be very sorry on his account that these statements should be credited, written, as I believe they were, while he was under the influence of fever. I received a letter last Saturday from Mr. Sheridan—there is not any allusion made to any of the evils which he relates to Mr. Tappan.

WM. C. WATERS.

From the New Orleans Observer.

MISSISSIPPI COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

We had the happiness, on the evening of the 26th of last month, (Oct.) to attend a meeting of the friends of this society, holden in the Presbyterian Church at Vicksburg. At an early hour the house was filled by an expectant and most respectable audience. Soon after our arrival, the meeting was organized by calling W. F. Markham, Esq. to the chair, and appointing Richards Barnet, Esq. Secretary. Not having received the paper in which the proceedings were published, nor having received a copy of the resolutions adopted, we shall be compelled to give our statements from memory, and a very few imperfect notes made at the meeting.

As soon as the Secretary had taken his seat, prayer was offered by the Rev. A. R. Banks, of Spring Hill, Arkansas. The chairman then called upon the Rev. R. S. Finley, the agent of the society, to state the objects of the meeting. Upon this call Mr. F. rose and remarked, that the call upon the citizens to attend this meeting had been made in order to present to their consideration the character, situation, prospects and claims of the Mississippi Colonization Society. He proceeded in a brief and simple manner to state the origin, aims, progress, success and prospects of the Society. Whatever might be the opinions or feelings of individuals in relation to other associations, no doubt could exist in any judicious mind, but that the founders and patrons of this Society were acting for the interest and well-being of the South generally, as well as for the best good of this State in particular. Of this the character of the individuals composing its executive committee, their well known wisdom and prudence, their high moral worth, their stations and interest in the community, and their wealth in slaves, as well as other property, give the most indubitable proof. So far then as the foundation and origin of the society, and the character of its directors and patrons are concerned, the public have the very best grounds of confidence in its objects, and the manner in which they are to be achieved.

The object, for it has but one, said the speaker, is simply "to colonize, with their own consent, upon the coast of Africa, the free people of colour of this State." This was the object of its founders in their first action on the subject; for this purpose they prosecuted the scheme till a society was organized, and this object still guides their counsels, and marks out their course of action.

Subsidiary to, and connected with this one great object, other and incidental advantages are seen and appreciated, and will exercise a due share of influence upon the minds of the benevolent friends of colonization. They see, and rejoice in the fact, that by success in their great and worthy enterprise, the whole western coast of Africa will soon be dotted with prosperous, civilized and christian communities, where agriculture, the mechanic arts, literature and religion will combine to shed a benign and hallowed light upon the darkness of that land, where perennial ignorance and barbarism have so long reigned. They see with joy the opening prospect, that through these colonies the missionaries of the cross will find access to the vast and as yet little known interior of Africa, and carrying with them the moral sun of the universe, the word of God, and accompanied by the Holy Spirit, will regenerate the wild, untutored savages of the wilderness, and give them to enjoy the blessings of knowledge, freedom and religion. They are by no means insensible of the advantages our own country will derive from the removal from among us of a population who, while here, are of necessity deprived of most of these privileges which give dignity to character, and awaken hope and ardor in the pursuit of virtues in common life, and who, when they may become numerous, will be found actuated by interests differing essentially from our own. In looking over the effects to be expected from success in this great and blessed enterprise, they rejoice to discover no one possible evil that can arise to themselves, their posterity, or their country; while from it, naturally as from a fountain, flow numerous and indefinitely increasing blessings to millions in Africa, if not in two continents of our globe.

Having showed, from clear facts, the practicability and certain success of the scheme of African colonization in general, Mr. F. proceeded to show, that what had been done by the whole American Colonization Society in many years, amounted to a smaller portion of property than had been granted to it by one single individual in Mississippi. That in one county, through the exertions of a single individual, more than twenty-five thousand dollars had been raised for this object; that many other citizens in various parts of the State were anxious to aid the Society in its operation, and were making arrangements for the purpose; that a late devise conferred upon the Society another large estate; and that a new expedition would sail for Africa in the course of the month of January next, with about one hundred emigrants, and that the Society now possessed on the coast of Africa a territory called Mississippi in Africa, where these emigrants would find on their arrival lands and houses fully prepared, not only for their reception, but yielding the fruits of industry and abundant means of subsistence.

Thus the Society possessed not only evidence of the entire practicability of their scheme, but also have the means both here and in Africa, requisite for accomplishing their objects. They have also, as they confidently believe, the cordial good wishes and co-operation of the wise and generous citizens of Mississippi, who have examined the subject in its political as well as moral and religious tendencies; and they rejoice especially in having enlisted in behalf of their enterprise the hearts and active exertions of the benevolent, and the fervent prayers of Christians of all denominations. With so many, and such well founded grounds of hope, they approach their fellow citizens with confidence, and ask their aid in prosecuting a great, a philanthropic, and a wise endeavour to disseminate the blessings of liberty and religion abroad, and at the same time to give the highest security against possible injury from insurrections or otherwise at home.

In addition to other reasons for united exertions in this great and righteous cause, the speaker urged that these colonies would be continued, even should they be abandoned by the friends of colonization in this country. The interest of slave-traders would lead them, if possible, to obtain possession of the influence of these enlightened little colonies, by which more extensively to carry on their traffic in the blood and sinews of the children of the crushed and peeled land. The cupidity of commercial speculation would induce traders to take hold of and sustain them, for purposes of profit and gain; and even abolitionists have, it is said, so far discovered the importance of these positions, as to have commenced arrangements for establishing, on the coast of Africa, some sort of business for profit, if not for philanthropic objects. But shall the bloody avarice of slave traders, and the mercenary hope of gain, be more successful and more persevering in sustaining African colonization than the benevolent and patriotic sons of Mississippi? Forbid it honour—forbid it every generous emotion of the hearts of a noble people.

After Mr. Finley sat down, resolutions were offered and sustained by able speeches by the Rev. Professor S. V. Marshall, of Oakland College, Rev. Z. Butler, of Port Gibson, who, in the course of his remarks, related many touching incidents connected with the grants to the Society of two large estates, amounting to several hundred thousand dollars, the Rev. C. K. Marshall, of Vicksburg, Rev. J. Gallaher, of Missouri, Rev. S. G. Winchester, of Natchez, and the Rev. James Smylie, of Amite county, Miss. For the excellent and persuasive speeches of the gentlemen who addressed the meeting, we have no space, were they before us in the language of the speakers. Much less could we pretend to do them justice by any abstract we could give of their contents.

The united testimony of all was equally in favour of the course of the Society, and opposed to the strange and infatuated schemes of the abolitionists. The object of the agent being not to gain subscriptions or contributions, but to present the subject to the calm consideration of the people for their future reflection and deliberation, the meeting was closed by singing an appropriate hymn. From the whole, we doubt not the impression was highly favourable to the cause of colonization.

From the Vermont Mercury.

COLONIZATION.

No enterprise, having for its object the benefit of the African race, deserves so favourable regard as that of colonization, by which is meant the removal to Africa of such people of colour, as will consent to emigration to that country, which seems designed by Providence as their home. The attention of the nation is much excited to the subject of slavery, and there is some danger from the zeal, which manifests itself in many an honest bosom, that even good intentions may be perverted or abused and rendered the causes of very serious sectional troubles. The scheme of colonization, while it strikes directly at the root of the evil, the slave trade, by arresting the exportation of slaves from the African coast, commends itself to the favourable consideration of the friends of union, as it unites the exertions of the humane and benevolent in both the northern and southern sections of the United States. It seeks the accomplishment of its great and laudable object by gentle means, invokes not the aid of invective or angry passions, shuns all connection with the politics of the day, and pursues its course with simplicity and singleness of purpose.

Our attention has been called to this topic by the lectures of Elliot Cresson, Esq. of Philadelphia, a gentleman, whose knowledge on this subject derived from a residence on the coast of Africa may be relied upon as entirely correct, and whose zeal in the cause of that suffering country has led him, at the hazard of his health, to visit this section of the Union to impart a portion of the information which he has collected at home and abroad in relation to African colonization. Mr. Cresson was so oppressed with an affection of the throat and lungs that it was with much difficulty that he made himself heard; indeed he was obliged from the increase of his hoarseness to give up the subject before completing the second lecture, but there is in the manner and purpose of the lecturer much to command attentive consideration, and we much mistake if he did not leave upon large and respectable audiences an impression, which will lead to good results.

In allusion to the lectures of Mr. Cresson in Montpelier, the editor of the Patriot, after saying that it is not his habit to attend to the various sermons and lectures of the different societies which have been formed for divers purposes and objects, remarks:

We were persuaded, however, to hear Mr. Cresson; and we feel constrained to say that we heard him with pleasure and satisfaction. He has been long engaged in advancing the interests of the cause he so warmly espouses—having visited Europe and Africa—and seems the perfect master of his subject. No man who heard him the three evenings can doubt that he is familiar with every rope in the ship, and that he understandings something of the art of navigating the rough and stormy seas of this contentious world of ours. He certainly possesses the faculty of making his scheme look plausible, if not feasible, and showing it forth in all the lovely attire of benevolence and philanthropy—it remains for those who are conversant with the objections to it to expose the fallacy and false-colouring, if any.

This much we will say, that we were deeply interested and amused in the lectures of Mr. C. and that we could not avoid being slightly touched in a tender spot occasionally—is it any body's business!

Mr. C. had a little sparring with the Secretary of State, who is generally tenacious of the opinion that nobody can be right but himself, and goes for nothing but immediate abolition, let the consequences be what they may. The boys say that the Secretary "waked up the wrong passenger."

So much anxiety has been manifested to hear Mr. Cresson further on the subject of his lectures, that we are encouraged to expect his return next week.

Colonization Herald.

TERMS—TWO DOLLARS PER ANNUM, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1838.

A correction should be made in the second sentence of the second paragraph of the sketch of Mr. Law's lecture on Milton, in our last number. For "the Greeks alone," read *the Greek slaves*—as was in the manuscript. We ought, however, in justice to our friend, the proof reader and superintendent of the printing office, to say, that he displays a rare skill in decyphering our often hieroglyphical writing.

There is one short article of a little more than a line, very handsomely printed in small capitals, at the head of our editorial columns, which, although full of meaning and constantly meeting the eyes of our readers, has, we are sorry to learn, failed to produce the desired effect on many of them. It runs thus; directly after *Colonization Herald*—TERMS. TWO DOLLARS PER ANNUM, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE. We are assured by the committee of our Society, and the printer confirms the assertion, that on the correct appreciation of this short but significative sentence turns its ability and that of their friends to introduce and publish all the other matters which fill the columns of the Herald.

The mistake originally committed, of placing the terms at two dollars, in place of two dollars and a half, for annual subscription, could only have been rectified to any extent by a prompt compliance with the above conditions. This proof of rectification has not been carried ont by a large number of our readers. A useful although a tardy atonement may still be made by their paying up their dues, at any rate before the expiration of this year. We do not now speak of the next, for when it opens, all our friends and readers will hear from us in a style of greeting and request, that will, we hope, find favor in their eyes.

They who may have professed to feel a privation in the relatively smaller proportion of colonization matter for a few weeks past, will find ample compensation in the amount and variety of articles, on this theme, in the present number of the Herald. For ourselves, we do not believe that the interest excited and knowledge imparted in a particular cause, are in proportion to the completeness with which the columns of a paper are *stuffed* with congenial matter for the purpose. The most efficient advocacy, that by which we ourselves feel encouraged to persevere in a course of opinion and action, is to present the subject regularly and connectedly with facts, and argument; based on facts, in the order in which they occur; reference being had to their pertinency and point rather than to their bulk. The zealous partisan politician, in charge of a newspaper, does not think it needful for his reputation and his success to devote all his columns, nor even a large share of them, to the enforcement and illustration of his favorite dogmas and pledges. One soon wearies of sameness and iteration. The attention must be relieved by variety of subject; without at the same time its being ever entirely diverted from the main and cherished purpose of thought and action. A single paragraph or an incident simply told will often suffice for a link to connect the past with the future and to keep conviction rivetted.

On our first page will be found two letters from Liberia; the first written by Dr. Goheen, the second by Louis Sheridan. It will not be difficult for the impartial, or even the commonly prejudiced reader to say, which is the more worthy of notice and credence, and which of the two writers has enjoyed the most extended opportunities of experience and observation. We cannot, however, notwithstanding the first publicity and subsequently wide circulation given to the letter of Mr. Sheridan in the abolition papers, introduce it into our columns without protesting formally against its being received as either a fair expression of his habitual disposition or of his opinion, or still less of the reality of the state of things in Liberia. It is a libel both on himself and his fellow colonists, one which in a healthful state he never would have written, even to an abolitionist, who, he knew, had a craving appetite for the strongest phraseology and harshest invective, irrespective of accuracy of fact or soundness of argument. But Mr. Sheridan probably did not know that the commonly received laws of intercourse between man and man, to say nothing of the obligation of Christian ethics, would be so utterly disregarded by his abolition correspondent as to cause the cruel exposure of his temporary infirmity. The case is hardly less gross in its outrage of the proprieties of epistolary intercourse than would be the revelations of the language and deportment of the tenant of the sick room extorted by pain and fear. On this point, regarding Mr. Sheridan's state of mind, we refer to the letter of Captain Waters in another column. That the brain and nervous system should be thus disturbed in persons who are convalescent from fever, or who have not even been confined to their beds by its violence, is a state of disorder not peculiar to the African climate, but is we learn, on competent medical authority, of no uncommon occurrence in all regions in which bilious, remittent and intermittent fevers are met with.

Believing the above cause to be adequate to explain his omissions of duty to the Societies and the non-fulfilment of promises made to them by letter and in conversation at Wilmington with the General Agent, we have no wish to make these a ground of accusation nor even of complaint at this time. It will be seen by a passage in Dr. Johnson's letter, to be also found in another column of our present number, that a month after Mr. Sheridan had written, his health was not good, but that he was in a more subdued and placable state of mind. We wait for an adequate period to elapse, in order that the experiment which Mr. Sheridan went to Liberia to make shall have fair trial. By that time he will be a more fitting and becoming witness to record it; and then it may be required of us to offer some comments on the occasion.

In the article in the Vermont Mercury which we have copied into our columns, favorable and just notice is taken of the zeal and ability with which our friend Mr. Cresson upholds and explains the Colonization cause. Master as he is of all its grander features and applications, as well as of the minutest practical details connected with it, both in Africa and in this country, it is not surprising that his auditors should suppose, as did the Mercury, but erroneously, that Mr. Cresson had been in Africa. Were the interests of the cause to

demand such a visit from him, he would, we are sure, be nothing loth to make it. Uniformly, indeed, the efforts of his friends are directed to restraining the workings of a zeal, which if totally unchecked, would wear him out long before he could reach the season of the sere and yellow leaf.

The letter of Dr. Johnson, the acting governor of Bassa Cove, was hastily written; but the want of the minor elegancies of style is amply made up by the evidences which it exhibits of his pains taking and practical course and character. Our friend of the New York Commercial Advertiser is in error in supposing Dr. Johnson to be a coloured man. He went out with Mr. Matthias, and took the place of Dr. M'Dowell as colonial physician, on the departure of this gentleman for the United States.

Mr. George Combe, who has lectured in Boston on Phrenology with such signal success, and who is now engaged in the same manner at New York, will begin a course of lectures in this city on the fourth of January, to be continued in the new Lecture Room of the Museum, corner of George and Ninth Streets. The course is to consist of sixteen lectures, and will be completed on the 8th of February.

Prospectuses may be had, gratis, at the book stores of Messrs. Haswell, Barrington and Haswell, Market Street; and of Mr. Whetham, Messrs. Kay and Brothers, and Mr. Judah Dobson, Chesnut Street.

We have reason to believe that a large class, composed of persons of learning and intelligence, many of whom are themselves distinguished in science, letters and the arts will be ready to hear Mr. Combe's explanations of, and commentaries on a subject which has so close a relation to education, morals, jurisprudence, criticism and taste.

The President's message has been, we doubt not, carefully read by all our subscribers; and hence we may stand excused from either inserting it at this late date, or exhibiting its leading features. It was carried from Washington to New York in the extraordinarily short period of ten hours and twelve minutes including stoppages, and one of these was we see of thirteen minutes duration.

The scenes of recent exhibition in Harrisburg, will, we hope, prompt every good citizen, who is either a father or a guardian, or in any way counsellor or adviser of the young, to inculcate on their minds a knowledge of our State and National Constitutions, and a jealous watchfulness for their preservation. Great evils require prompt and violent remedies; but it is the part of wisdom to withhold the cause, and thus prevent all their dire and often irremediable effects.

Our columns are, we learn, already filled, and we must postpone some remarks we had proposed to make on the sinister substitution by Mr. L. Tappan, of groundless assertions for fact and argument, whenever he touches the subjects of emancipation and colonization.

Mr. Pinney writing to the General Agent from Blairsville, under date of Nov. 26th says:

"I have visited Butler, Kittanning, Indiana and Armagh, and am now on my return to the city. My first effort was made in Butler, where I met the society organized a year ago and lectured twice. A committee was appointed to wait upon the citizens and solicit aid. Before I left the place, the following sums were received and paid to me.

From Rev. Josiah Nibloe for Colonization Herald, 1838,	$2 00
" " " as Treasurer B. Colonization Society,	16 75
" Rev. A. M. Lean for Colonization Herald for 1838 and '39,	4 00
" Rev. L. Young for Colonization Herald for 1838 and '39,	4 00

On the 20th and 21st, I lectured at Kittanning, and found many decided friends to the cause. Several names were obtained towards forming a society, but owing to the short notice of my visit and the absence of several gentlemen whose co-operation is expected, they thought it advisable to defer an organization to another period. A subscription to the amount of more than fifty dollars was made, of which I received the following:

From D. Johnson, Esq.	$10 00
" A. Colwell,	10 00
" Mr. James E. Brown,	10 00
" Thomas McConnel,	5 00

On Tuesday, I proceeded to Indiana, where I gave a lecture. The friends there did not choose to organize a society at present. They however sent me away with a handsome subscription—all paid—amounting to $64.

On Saturday, I proceeded to Armagh, and was present at the communion on Sabbath. This morning I lectured to a very respectable audience, and aided in forming the Armagh Colonization Society with a subscription of more than $40."

Mr. Moore is still prosecuting the business of his agency with good success in Bucks county. Since our last notice of his doings, he has lectured in Bristol, Hulmesville, Yardleyville, Newtown, Doylestown, New Hope, Lambertville, Northampton, Hartsville, and other places. "Most of these meetings," says Mr. Moore, "were well attended, much interest was manifested almost every where, and in some places enthusiasm. This county is *Colonization*, by a large majority, although the actual sentiment of the people has not been fully expressed as yet by definite organizations. I think we will be able to do something that will set a good example."

Our young friend, Mr. Thomas Bowman, who was recently appointed an agent of this Board, has commenced operations in Berks county. Writing from Reading to the General Agent on the 5th inst. he says,

"I came to this town last week, and have been endeavoring to excite an interest among the people in the colonization cause. On Monday evening, a number of the citizens attended my lecture, and I was requested to lecture again next Thursday evening, when I expect a society will be formed, and I shall be able to take a better collection than I did on Monday evening.

Yesterday I visited Pottstown, and lectured to a number of the gentlemen of that place. Here also I was requested to lecture again, and I consented, with the expectation that the society of that place will be resuscitated. After I shall have filled these two appointments, I shall pass to other parts of this county, but in what order I have not determined. When I first came to this place I was somewhat discouraged; but I have succeeded better than I expected, and my prospects now appear cheering. I find the people want information, and whenever they are instructed in regard to our plans, they immediately fall in with them. Abolitionism has had some hold in this neighborhood, but it is becoming unpopular. The people seem to have taken it up because no other plan of affecting slavery had been brought before them."

A careful perusal will be given, by all our readers, of the valuable extracts from the Liberia Herald, which exhibit the resources and future prospects of the colonies.

LECTURE ON GENIUS.

The Rev. Mr. Furness gave the fourth lecture before the Athenian Institute and Mercantile Library Company, on Tuesday evening the 4th of December. The subject was "Genius."

The lecturer regarded Genius as an original power of the mind, a gift of Heaven, which no combination of circumstances, whether of culture or of art, can simulate or confer. Genius may be fostered and modified by education—it may, for a time, be repressed or accelerated in its career by external agencies; but is never the product of these. It is an innate principle, as distinctive and independent as the vitality of the seed which is made to germinate and bring forth fruit by being placed in the earth and acted on by warmth and moisture, but which can never be derived from these influences. We can dam up the stream and divert it into new channels; but without the source be open and perennial, the former will be useless and the latter soon dried up.

Men sometimes acquire by adventitious means, by art and trick, a partial elevation, a temporary ascendancy in the world, which is attributed to genius, but which is sooner or later exposed as a shallow imposture—a poor imitation of the bright original.

The notion that the mind can be fashioned, and its faculties moulded at will, is productive of the most injurious consequences. By it the misapplied and mistaken fondness of a mother is prompted to interpose between her child and the objects by which it is surrounded, a barrier, as she supposes, against harm and suffering; but in reality against the cultivation of its senses and the development of its strength, both physical and moral. She is ignorant of, or overlooks the fact of its possessing strong internal powers, which would, if left alone, urge it to examine, inquire, grapple with, and overcome the obstacles that oppose its onward course. She treats her son as a babe, and as a grown babe he enters the world, with its stern realities, wondering and helpless amid all that surrounds him—an example of the fruits of opposition to nature, and of the fallacy that mind is the creature of circumstances.

The like error pervades the whole system of modern education. Little or no regard is paid to the mental appetite—the relative ability to turn to account, to convert into available attainments the literary food presented to the young. All is supposed, as it is attempted to be, reduced to a mere mechanism—but the innate vital impulse is not sought for, or if seen is restrained, as irregular or unsafe. From such partial and imperfect efforts to evolve, or rather to manufacture mind, nothing but poverty of result can be expected. Mediocrity, if not dulness, is the no uncommon return for the painstaking of the schools—whereas, in some obscure corner, unaided and alone, the youth of genius is preparing himself for his high office, and suddenly bursts on the world as a renovator, improver, and reformer. Much of the prevailing error of opinion and practice on this subject is referrible to the doctrines of Locke, whether fully expounded and understood, the lecturer would not undertake to say. But, he continued, the well known comparison by this philosopher, of the mind, at birth, to a leaf of white paper, on which may be inscribed the various ideas and combinations constituting knowledge and genius, has had a pervading and unfortunate influence. It is worthy of remark, that while ponderous folios, filled with learning and indicative of patient and profound research, have been allowed to rest on the shelves undisturbed, and of course have been unproductive, that a common metaphor, such as that used by Locke, should have revolutionised the opinion of the world, and given a specific direction and character to the practice of education.

It is impossible to say under what circumstances genius can be evoked and brought into active display. Not quite two hundred years ago, a small, sickly, timid boy, at a country school in England, was subjected, in addition to the common harsh treatment of the master, to the tyranny and often blows of his companions. One of these latter was peculiarly forward in his maltreatment of the poor boy, who in a corner, alone and unfriended, or in bed, in the still hour of the night, shedding bitter tears the while, would reflect on his unhappy state, and the cruelty of his school-fellows. I cannot, said he, repel blow by blow, I cannot pay back in kind what he inflicts on me, but I will take my revenge; I will apply myself still more to my lessons, I will be at the head of my class, and look down as a superior upon this cruel boy. The resolve of this disconsolate youth was acted on; he did apply himself, and with such success, as not only to be the foremost in his class and school, but afterwards, in manhood, the foremost in England, in Europe, and the world, the leader and ruler in science. It was the great Newton himself, the discoverer and expounder of the laws of the Solar system, and the composition of light.

The lecturer, while bearing testimony to the deserved weight of authority attached to the name of Bacon, for his lessons in inductive reasoning and philosophy, thought that these had been too rigidly, or rather with not a sufficiently liberal spirit construed. A lucky thought or chance event exciting inquiry has been the initiative to some of the grandest discoveries and inventions. A shrewd question is half of the answer; a conjecture, well put, is a great step towards a solution of the problem. Copernicus had heard that one of the Greek philosophers believed that the earth revolved on its own axis every twenty-four hours, and performed its revolution round the sun in the course of the year. The remark had been read again and again by others before Copernicus, but was doubtless dismissed as idle hypothesis. He made it a material for his genius to work on; and the result was an entire revolution in the opinions of the schools, and the universal adoption of what now every tyro sees to be among the simplest truths—the relative situation and movements of the planets, with the sun for their great centre.

Great truths once promulgated, seem to us afterwards to be very simple and of obvious suggestion to their discoverers; but unhappily the labours of genius in this respect seldom find a fostering and protecting friend. Not only are the ignorant crowd opposed, but learning and the schools interpose difficulties, and on occasions have had recourse to persecution against genius. After the fact has been shown, it is very easy to make the egg stand on its end. Now that this great continent in which we live is fully known and measured, it may seem to many that its existence must have appeared to be a plain truth, which Columbus could have no difficulty in detecting. But what does history tell us? Is it not that the celebrated Genoese was obliged to persevere against the opposition of the learned, and the neglect of the rulers of that day, wandering from court to court, trying in vain to procure a hearing for his, as it then seemed, chimerical scheme? But strong in his lofty genius, the internal workings of a powerful intellect and noble feelings, he persisted until he saw and reached the new world.

We hear it now and then alleged, said the lecturer, that genius is the creation of a particular age and state of society and manners, and of the immediate situation and circumstances of the individual. Thus, we are told, that if Shakspeare had been in Bacon's place he would have acquired the knowledge, and taught the philosophy of the chancellor; and, conversely, that Bacon, if surrounded by the same circumstances in which Shakspeare was placed, would have shone forth as the unrivalled dramatic poet and painter of the human heart. This view is opposed to the history of genius at all times, which represents its possessors to be impelled to exhibitions that are not, in any way, the reflexion of things or the echo of voices and opinions, by which they are habitually surrounded, and to creations which are not of the materials in reach or at hand. When Rittenhouse, at his plough, drew diagrams on its handles, illustrative of the problems which he was working at the time in his mind, he could not be supposed to be influenced or aided in any way by the labour in which he was engaged or the associations connected with this labour. The life of the Scottish peasantry was hard and literal as can be well conceived; and it, certainly would not be thought to furnish the germ, still less the flowers and radiant beauties of poetry. And yet from this origin came Burns, who drew out what was before unnoticed, and invested all with a charm, a depth of feeling and pathos which have made him not only Scotia's favoured bard, but the poet of nature and of simple beauty every where.

One of the characteristics of genius, according to the lecturer, was the extreme modesty and often diffidence of its possessors. The remark, true in the main, admits of many notable exceptions: but on these we shall not dwell, as we profess to be now chroniclers rather than critics. The reply of Newton, to some who were complimenting him on his discoveries and attainments, illustrated the lecturer's opinion. The celebrated astronomer and philosopher had alleged that if he had done more than his fellow men, his advancement was due to perseverance and patience of thought more than to any genius or talent of his own. Shakspeare it was stated, exhibits but in one place, in all his numerous and wonderful poems, any apparent consciousness of his extraordinary powers. There are, the lecturer admitted, occasions in which a lofty mind may, without the imputation of vanity, in order to impose confidence in the timid and irresolute, proclaim its own purposes in a strain of self-confidence and reliance. As when the fearful boatman was reassured by the declaration of his passenger—"You carry Cæsar and his fortunes."

Not incompatible, either, with the modesty of genius, is that firm persuasion a time and posterity will award that justice and meed of praise which may be withheld for the present from its original exhibitions. A man may feel that he is in advance of his age, and determine to wait patiently until his labours are appreciated. Under such feelings and convictions did Wordsworth, the lecturer thinks, contentedly live amidst the ridicule and abuse poured out on him for his intimate communings with simple nature, believing that the time for justice would come; and it has come, continued the lecturer, and now to Wordsworth is awarded the foremost position among the poets of the century—a place which, not dependent on his own indulgence in morbid sensibility, or stimulatiag appeals to the palled appetite of the crowd in stories of robbers, pirates, and fables of eastern life, will be kept, and more and more hereafter watchfully guarded, by an increased love and admiration of the world of true taste.

Good nature and a just appreciation of the labours of others are also among the characteristics of genius enumerated by the lecturer. Even were the evidence furnished by his novels and poems to be disputed or withheld, the uniform good nature and absence of all jealous rivalry in Sir Walter Scott would suffice to induce us to rank him among men of genius. Did time allow or the occasion require it, notable exceptions might be adduced to this view taken by the lecturer. If genius be manifested through the intellect by an original display of the exercise of one or more of the faculties of this latter, we can readily understand how a great diversity of disposition and moral character may be associated with genius. We must not, however, omit to state, that Mr. Furness believes that although genius is an original gift of mind, it is possessed in various degrees by nearly all men, and that it is evinced not simply by success in inventions or in the arts, as of music, sculpture, and painting, but in a proper balance and proportion of the sentiments and moral faculties of man. Thus regarded, Washington, who had such an admirable combination of these properties, was a man of genius, although in reference to many, if not all of his faculties, surpassed by others in their exhibition of any one. Again we waive our critical office, and restrict ourselves to simple, though we admit very, imperfect narrative.

The lecturer, whilst he admitted the natural superiority of some men over others in their intellectual powers and greater readiness of manifesting them, and protested against that levelling system which would decry all genius as giving arrogant and unjust pre-eminence to the few over the many, gave no encouragement to indolence and apathy. He very properly showed that men of the greatest genius, who have most advanced the boundaries of science, and cultivated the domain of imagination, have been the most perseveringly studious and industrious. Each step in fact of observation and experiment, by enlarging the sphere of mental vision, brings genius into more multiplied relations with the outer world, and prompts to more frequent communions with that inner world—of high imaginings, lofty aspirations, and generous resolve. Learning has been supposed to be adverse to the fresh and vigorous displays of genius; but this is an error which the example of Milton alone would be sufficient to refute. Amid the various degrees of genius it is difficult to say how far the possessor of one is capable of surpassing him of another until all the energies are brought into play and continuedly exercised. By perserving labours, difficulties at first apparently insurmountable are overcome, and a new sense is almost acquired by the individual. Bodily deformity, privation of a sense, and other impediments to the general exercise of all the faculties of mind and body, have contributed singularly to quicken the delicacy and extend the range of other senses and powers. The blind are in large numbers good musicians, and from this fact the lecturer draws the conclusion, rather too sweeping, that all persons can learn music, and understand the principles of melody and the laws of harmony. The opinion certainly deserves to be carried out to a much greater extent than is commonly done. Music ought, as in Prussia, to be made part of common school education.

We do not remember in what connexion reference to the work was made; but the lectures of Huzlitt on Shakspeare were spoken of by Mr. Furness in terms of warm commendation—which will find an echo with many, although some, we are aware, regard Mr. Hazlitt as a successful dissector, rather than a commentator of Shakspeare.

The difference between the olden time and the present in the relative difficulties which genius had to overcome in making itself heard, were very happily described by the lecturer. Then if a book were written, it seemed to be the effect of a strong impulse of genius, which felt itself called upon to perform a duty for the benefit of mankind. Now, when every whim, and every possible motive prompts to authorship, the wonder no longer is at a man's having written a book. The marvel is to see one who professes to have read and studied at all, who is not at the same time an author. Nor is it easy to get at public opinion to enable us to judge of the intrinsic merits of a production and to say whether it has the imprint of genius or not, owing to the power and extent of the machinery of puffing, which puts on the same level a puerile sonnet and an original poem, a rhapsodical tale, and a Waverly novel, partisan history and the writings of an Herodotus.

In this imperfect sketch of the lecture of Mr. Furness we merely give some of the leading ideas and illustrations, without professing to exhibit them in regular succession—certainly not in that easy flow of language, and graceful yet expressive composition which distinguish his production. A pleased auditor, although he may convey his general impression, is not the one best calculated to repeat with critical minuteness the divisions and all the details of a discourse.

Four Years in Paraguay: *comprising an Account of that Republic under the Government of the Dictator Francia:* By J. R. & W. P. Robertson, is the title of a work recently published, in two volumes, by Messrs. Carey and Hart. We copied into the Herald, rather more than a month ago, a commendatory notice of this work, with copious extracts, from the London Literary Gazette. If it were necessary, we could heartily respond for ourselves to the opinions there advanced, and assure the reader that he will find much pleasant and withal instructive matter, throwing light on the revolutions and wars which ended in the independence of the South American States; and more particularly on the present condition of Paraguay, a kind of American China, so far as regards the very restricted intercourse which it holds with the rest of the world. History, interwoven with biographical sketches and personal adventures, make up the body of these volumes; and constitute a variety which never tires. But the chief personage, the most prominent figure in the whole series of groups, is the Dictator Francia, with whom the travellers held a somewhat intimate intercourse, both before and after his elevation to supreme power.

Messrs. Haswell, Barrington & Haswell have lately sent forth a small volume called Frank Hearty, the *Country Boy*, well calculated to meet the object of its author. Master Frank "is a right country boy;" and a smart young farmer. "He can mow with a small scythe, hoe corn, reap, catch the wildest horse on the farm, bridle and ride him, hold plough or drive, and shoot flying squirrels on the wing, and he is not yet fourteen years old." But in addition to all this, Frank "knows a few things. He is a pretty bright scholar in his way"—and how he became so, constitute the incidents and descriptions in the present volume.

Frank's schoolmaster was one of a thousand. Besides this, our boy had a good natured and intelligent uncle, called Rambler, who loved to tell Frank a great many curious stories about the instincts and habits of animals, and whilst doing this he conveys, in a very pleasant way, a knowledge of their classification, and communicates technical terms without their seeming hard or alarming the juvenile reader. Here and there a good lesson in morals is introduced in the most natural manner, as if it belonged to the incidents of the day—Master Frank of course being the hero.

We do not know a more unpretending, and yet pleasant and safe introduction to Zoology than *Frank Hearty*, whose company just now, when so many animals, from all parts of the world, are collected in this city, must prove peculiarly agreeable to youngsters of both sexes. To those who cannot see the originals, the wood cuts in the book will be found useful.

From the same press we have Austin Hall, second edition. This work makes a very neat volume, handsomely bound and ornamented with numerous well executed engravings on wood. It consists of conversations on various subjects, which have no obvious or intended connexion between them; but which tend to one common object—that of amusing the reader, whether a Master or Miss in teens, or your more staid student, and even adult. Events in the life of Charles the second, the attempt of the Roman tribune Rienzi to restore the liberties of his country, the ever facetious and adventure-seeking caliph Haroun al Raschid of Bagdad, are among the historical characters. The last brings us into unexpected, but funny company, some of which one will not esteem the less for having met before. In addition to these are the adventures of Alexander Selkirk, (the original Robinson Crusoe) with a sketch of Jewish, and stories from French History, Fables, &c.

Some things connected with the Canadian rebellion cannot fail to excite unqualified and absolute disgust. For instance, the instigators of the contest, instead of being found in the midst of the foray, are busy in the United States venting their patriotism in windy harangues, and endeavoring to seduce our citizens from the path of duty. The late affair at Windmill Point exhibits the cowardly and treacherous character of some of these would-be heroes, and proves them totally unworthy of countenance or sympathy. Late events confirm our former opinion, that the contest for liberty is a mere device of idle vagabonds to get a living without labor. The mass of the Canadian people take no interest in the struggle.—*The Richmond Whig.*

Summary.

The Rev. N. T. Bent, of New Bedford, has accepted a call to officiate in St. Paul's Church in this city, during the absence of the Rector, the Rev. Mr. May, who is now in Europe, seeking to regain his health.

Mr. Van Buren has recognized John C. Lang, the Prussian Consul for the port of Philadelphia.

The Camden and Woodbury rail-road intend to apply to the Legislature of New Jersey for a supplement to their charter, authorizing them to extend the southerly end of their road to some point on the Delaware bay south of Cohansey creek, and to increase the capital to 800,000 dollars.

Navy General Orders.

Navy Department, Nov. 18, 1838.

The practice of bringing home, in the public vessels of the United States, various animals, such as horses, asses, mules, and other quadrupeds, formerly authorized by this Department, having been found by recent experience productive of great inconvenience, and liable to abuse, is hereby strictly prohibited in future.

J. K. Paulding.

It appears by the last English papers that a magnificent *Iron Steam Ship* is to form part of a line of communication with Calcutta. She is to be called the "Queen of the East," of 2,618 tons, and 600 horse power.

More Steam.—The Liverpool correspondent of the New Orleans Merchants' Transcript states that it is in contemplation to establish a British line of steam packets to that port.

Sir John Colborne has authorized the formation of three volunteer brigades in the city of Montreal, comprising light infantry, cavalry, artillery and rifles. They are to receive the same rates of pay as those established for the general service.

A flour mill, driven by steam, has recently been erected in Bath, Maine. It turns out as good flour from "down east" wheat as the best Genesee. It is abundantly supplied with native wheat—and so pressing is the custom that it has been found necessary to erect two more run of stones.

We understand that the gold mines recently discovered in Upper Egypt have been exceedingly productive, and it is expected that others will shortly be discovered. The commercial house of P. Jussuff, at Trieste, has forwarded eighty quintals of the quicksilver of Ida to Alexandria, to purify the ore. The quicksilver was sold for 225 florins the quintal.

Silk Growers Convention.—A National Convention of those interested in the culture of silk will be held in Baltimore on the 11th of December next. It is suggested to silk growers, and all who are friendly to this branch of industry in our country, that they take prompt measures to procure delegates to this convention. The approaching meeting of Congress will afford citizens of distant states an opportunity of being represented in that body by their representatives in congress.

Maryland.—We have great satisfaction in stating that the Rt. Rev. Bishop of New Jersey, has been invited by the Standing Committee of Maryland to perform Episcopal offices in that diocese during the present vacancy in the Episcopate, and that he has consented to accept the appointment. It is expected that he will very speedily enter upon his course of duties; and from his talents, piety and zeal, great good to the parishes may be expected.—*Churchman.*

REVENUE OF THE COMMONWEALTH FOR 1838.

Summary Statement of the Receipts at the State Treasury, commencing on the first day of November, 1837, and ending on the 31st day of October, 1838, viz:

Lands, and Land Office fees,	$61,765 57
Auction Commissions,	11,400 00
Auction Duties,	77,391 95
Dividends on Bank Stock,	158,230 00
Dividends on Turnpike Stock,	8,905 83
Dividends on Bridge and Navigation stocks,	34,583 25
Tax on Bank Dividends,	113,826 89
Tavern licenses,	50,311 32
Retailers' licenses,	76,525 61
Hawkers' and Pedlars' licenses,	5,303 71
Tin and Clock Pedlars' licenses,	397 50
Collateral Inheritance tax,	22,295 70
Pamphlet laws,	593 35
Increase of county rates and levies,	9,916 33
Tax on personal property,	380 46
State Maps,	9 50
Canal and rail-road tolls,	950,336 32
Premiums on bank charters,	227,053 53
Loans,	775,000 00
Interests on deposites,	137,668 86
Tax on writs, &c.,	22,108 55
Tax on certain offices,	8,212 89
Militia and exempt fines,	288 58
Escheats,	1,231 48
Tax on loan companies,	3,564 20
Fees of the Secretary of State's office,	592 65
Fees of the Auditor General's office,	106 28
Dickinson College lands,	315 33
Miscellaneous,	1,871 65
Total,	$2,769,087 29
Balance in the Treasury on November 1, 1837,	2,220,135 74
	$4,989,223 03

EXPENDITURES OF THE COMMONWEALTH FOR 1838.

Summary Statement of the Expenditures at the State Treasury, commencing on the 1st day of November, 1837, and ending on the 31st day of October, 1838, viz:

Commissioners of the Internal Improvement Fund,	$3,153,125 79
Expenses of Government,	295,694 01
Turnpikes,	119,161 42
State Roads,	100,050 00
Bridges,	62,950 00
Rail-road, canal companies, &c.	283,156 18
Militia Expenses,	30,664 24
Pension and gratuities,	47,091 53
Education,	414 828 10
Interest on loans,	99,000 00
Eastern Penitentiary,	34,268 00
Western Penitentiary,	6,624 00
House of Refuge,	5,000 00
Conveying Convicts,	1,496 84
Conveying Fugitives,	1,264 41
Convention to amend the Constitution,	157,622 89
Geological Survey,	12,000 00
State Library,	3,460 00
Defence of the State,	30 00
Mitchell Scrip,	18,363 09
Miscellaneous,	43,913 23
	$4,889,863 73
Balance in the Treasury, 1st of November, 1838.	99,359 30
	$4,989,223 03

Note.—In the above payments at the Treasury, the cost of repairing the canal in Huntingdon county, (which is now ready for navigation,) is not included, as the money was procured on extraordinary application to the United States Bank, in preference to convening the Legislature, and was directly drawn by the Canal Board.

The new filtering reservoirs of the Chelsea Company occupy a space of 48,000 square yards superfices. The filtering bottom consists of 12,000 cubic yards of pebble, siliceous gravel and shelly sand, and they have been constructed at an expense of £57,000. The pipes are laid eight feet below the surface of this bottom, through which the water is filtered and cleansed before it passes into the wells from which the mains are supplied.

DR. CHANNING'S LECTURE ON SELF-CULTURE BEFORE THE FRANKLIN LYCEUM.

Dr. Channing began by stating his design in addressing the audience, viz. to set before them the Ideal of human culture; the means of obtaining that ideal; and to reply to some objections commonly brought against the idea of educating the mass of men. Before sketching the plan of his address, he enlarged with singular beauty and effect on the great dignity of human nature; the worth of man, as man, a value so great, that all distinctions between *classes* of men vanished in a moment; they were as drops to the ocean. He then proceeded, in a very eloquent manner to unfold the Idea of culture; what a man should design to do for himself. He should aim 1st, To cultivate his *moral powers*. These were of the noblest order. The sentiment of the just, the true, and the good, connects us most intimately with God. Conscience is God's most familiar presence in the soul. It is a *real* power, though some deny its existence. 2d, To cultivate the *religious sentiments*. We will not do injustice to this portion of the address, by the meagre report we could furnish of it at this moment, and at this distance of time, for we took no notes. Suffice it to say, it was received with almost breathless attention, by a large audience, many of whom were standing, for want of room to sit. 3d, To cultivate the *intellectual* powers. There was less danger these should be omitted than any of the others, for men saw the use of the mind. It gave bread, distinction, wealth and power. Men were willing to lay great stress on this; still, too much *could* not be done. Then 4th, the sense of the *beautiful* was to be cultivated. He spoke of the reality of this sentiment, and the beautiful provision made for its culture, by the Author of nature. Only a small part of the *things* in the world, were designed to feed, clothe or warm man, but all were beautiful, from the little shell to the cloud and the rainbow. This sense could be cultivated by meditating on the works of nature and art. He supposed a man to find, in a rude cottage the works of the great masters of design, paintings, statues; and to be told that from year to year no eye looked at them. How he would lament. But the beauties of nature were as little noticed by many men. They saw no beauty.

II. *The means of this education.* A man's trade taught him. He did not consider it a figure of speech that a man was taught by his trade. Education was the unfolding of the mind, a trade educates the mind, as far as it calls it into exercise; some trades do this as well as any of the learned professions. So, as well educated men may be found in trades as in professions. Besides, education is not merely a developement of the *mind*, but of the *moral, religious and social* affections, and humble stations in life afford often the best opportunity for the exercise of the great virtues of charity and self-denial such as the rich man cannot practise, from the *nature* of the case: so the best specimens of human nature, or in others words the *greatest men*, may be found, where we least often look for them; in the lowest walks of life. Here he made some remarks on *true* greatness, which, to our humble sense, seemed the truest and the noblest teaching we ever heard, except in the great and good volume. He thought the *greatest man* in this city might be found in some lowly tenement; all unknown to idle lookers on; plying some humble calling; sustaining a family by his labor, and every day doing duties, difficult to be done, and braving crosses, hard to be borne, which would give a man the *fame* of greatness, if borne in a conspicuous station. Here he spoke of some of the obstacles in the way of culture, and particularly of intemperance, the deadliest foe to it. He expressed his hearty approval of the famous fifteen-gallon Law. He suggested reading. A man could purchase the works of Milton, and Shakspeare, for a small sum, and though excluded from *good society*, have the society of those sacred authors, in his lowly dwelling. He enlarged on this means of improvement. Spoke also of schools; of the great interest now felt in education in our State; of the great service rendered by the present Secretary of the Board of Education, and one gentleman who gave treasure to establish a Normal School. But the present state of education was not satisfactory; much remained to be done. It is possible that the poorest should one day have better means of self-culture than the richest possess *at this time*. The poorest man has better means of self-culture than Homer, or Pythagoras. He proposed that the public lands should in some way be appropriated to this great work. He spoke also of conversation as a noble instrument for cultivating the whole man—as an amusement and instruction, it was above price. It was little noticed, because every body could talk. He dwelt on the importance of beginning early. Here lay the secret. If one commenced late, great energies, and hardy efforts might do much, but want of early culture would always retard the work, so the duty of parents was plain.

III. *Reply to Objections.* Some say uncultivated laborers are the best laborers, (an argument worthy of Hobbes.) An answer to this is found in the state of agriculture and the arts, in the southern states, where the laborers are slaves, and of course uncultivated. Some say laborers have not time. But for what do men live? Besides, cultivation creates time, by devising easy methods of doing the work of the community. Witness the steam engine, and a thousand other machines. The tendency of civilization is to make the head save the hands. So time is set free to grow wise and good in. Some other popular (at least common) objections were answered, which we will not mention.

The above is but a very meagre, poor and imperfect report of what seemed to us the most profound, philosophic, christian, and practical discourse of this great and eloquent philanthropist. The subject was worthy of the man, and the man equal to the subject. The address was eloquent, deep, full of profound philanthropy, and religious feeling. We could not avoid looking round to watch the effect on many a care worn face. Surely the spark had struck in the heart, for the flame already rising shone in the face. We could see in imagination the great truths uttered that night stealing like the noiseless dew into an hundred families, warming the heart, exciting the thoughts, guiding the energies and shaping the life of multitudes, who shall bless his name, or what is better, rejoice in his light, when his name is forgot. It cannot be that so many good words have fallen like water spilt, not to be gathered again; for it is true, that no drop of heaven's rain falls, on the sterile ocean, on the gutter stone of a city, without doing a good work. It cannot be that the words of truth, warmed by the spirit of religion and uttered by such persuasive lips, should fall and be forgot. It should be added that much of the manuscript was omitted by the lecturer for want of time. Of course we suppose it will be published.

Christian Register.

From the New Orleans Bee.

FLOATING PLANT.

Doctor Samuel A. Cartwright, of Natchez, read a lecture before the Mississippi Lyceum, on the 7th inst., on the health preserving properties of the *grandiflora jussisua*, or floating plant. Part of the lecture is published in the Natchez Free Trader of the 17th inst., and is to be concluded in a subsequent number. The doctor ascribes to that plant virtues of the most salutary kind, and if he can establish them to the extent in which he says they exist, the floating plant will become a very important material for promoting and restoring health. It is found on the stagnant waters of Lower Louisiana in great quantities, floating on the surface, and where it appears, the water of the bayou or pool on which it floats, is more or less clear in proportion to the greater or smaller quantity of the plant. According to Doctor Cartwright, the pores of this plant constitute the alembic through which the impurities of the water pass off. The plant is entirely aquatic, bears a flower, grows three or four feet above the surface of the water; the root is several feet in length, lies horizontally on the water, about two inches below the surface. The roots and leaves, says the doctor, form such dense covering to the water as to constitute a bridge sufficiently strong to enable snakes and the smaller animals to pass over the pools in which it grows. The mass is in some places so thick as to offer considerable resistance to a canoe, and they form the stratum of the *prairie tremblante* or the shaking prairie.

The doctor supposes that the growth of this plant is conducive to the health of the region in which it appears; and, to support his theory, he adduces the following facts:

1. That it purifies all stagnant water in which it grows.

2. That though he visited the region in which the plant is indigenous, in the hottest season of the year, he found the stagnant waters of the lakes and bayous, inhabited by this plant, as pure to the sight, smell and taste, as if it had just fallen from the clouds. He gives as an example the waters of the Bayou Black, which have a darkish appearance, owing to a chemical affinity between some ferruginous matter in the soil and the oak trees and leaves which had fallen into it, yet the water was free from all disagreeable taste and smell. It contained no green scum, and was as good and palatable as cistern water, except near the Gulf of Mexico, where it was impregnated with salt, and the inhabitants drink no other kind of water. The doctor alleges, that south of the region where the jussieua grandiflora grows, in the same kind of alluvial soil, stagnant water of pools and bayous becomes very impure. He infers, therefore, that this aquatic plant consumes or feeds upon those substances which, in other situations, corrupt and vitiate stagnant waters in warm climates.

3. The doctor asserts a fact, which, if well founded, establishes his theory beyond all controversy: the region in which this plant abounds, contains more stagnant water and swamps than any other inhabited district of the same extent in the United States, and yet the inhabitants enjoy a remarkable degree of health and longevity, and are exempt from malarious and miasmatic diseases. The growth of this plant is bounded by the 30th degree of north latitude, and the soil and face of the country on both sides of it are similar, being alluvial, and containing lakes, swamps and stagnant water, and covered with nearly the same vegetable productions. The country on the north side is unhealthy, its stagnant waters impure, its inhabitants sickly, and human life of short duration. On the south side, on the contrary, there is a wholesome atmosphere, pure water, healthy and long lived inhabitants. The doctor adduces the country on bayou Lafourche to sustain his theory respecting the healthiness produced by the growth of the floating plant, and he says that in the year 1831 a great number of the original settlers were living, who migrated from Nova Scotia before the revolution. The negro population, he says, was very numerous and remarkably healthy and long lived, and the number of persons among the negroes over a hundred years old, was greater than in all New England, including its whole population white and black.

The inhabitants attribute their peculiar healthfulness to the salubrious influence of sea breezes. But the same effect is not produced by sea breezes on soils of the same kind, beyond the region of the jussieua grandiflora. Therefore, he says, it is a fair inference that this plant, by consuming the impurities of the stagnant waters, prevents the generation of miasmats, and thus acts as a prophylactic against bilious fevers and other miasmatic diseases.

Doctor Cartwright is a man of science and learning, of high character as a physician and of amiable disposition. We are not sufficiently acquainted with the phenomena of natural history to decide upon the merits of his theory. If it be correct, and the facts which he advances, seem to leave no doubt on the subject, he has made a discovery of the utmost importance to science—and one which will be extremely useful to the inhabitants of the southern parishes of Louisiana.

THE CAPABILITIES OF BRITISH INDIA.

The superficial extent of territory, under the immediate government of the Company, is 514,190 square miles; while the extent of the whole territory in India coming under British *protection*,—we use the word strangely, we should say, *influence* in contradistinction—is 1,28,800¾ square miles. It would be a waste of time to dilate on the *variousness* of product of which so great an extent of soil must necessarily be capable; or comprising with the statement of extent its geographical site, which, varying from 8 to 30 N. lat., and from 72 to 100 E. long., includes, in point of climate, the finest portions of the temperate and torrid zones, to exhaust the patience of the reader by expatiating upon the *richness* of product by which it must be so astonishingly distinguished. At a glance, the eye of the most careless discovers that the variety and exuberance of the productions of so far extending an empire, must be utterly without limits; there is, therefore, no necessity for drawing attention to the general fact of the agricultural powers of India. It will be more to the purpose of the present paper, to point out the productions of the country in its particular districts, as well as of those which more strikingly address themselves to the observation and interests of the British capitalist. The staple productions of India may be stated to be indigo, sugar, cotton, silk, opium, and, of course, rice. With the exception of the first there is not one of these which, on introduction into the home market, but is declared inferior. Now, it is very evident that the inferiority cannot result from deficiency in soil or climate. It results, the mind instantly perceives, from undue cultivation. Neither can it be asserted that the partiality of government, in affixing so high duties to articles of Indian growth, is the radical cause of this inferiority. In its native region, previous to its transmission to the home market, or ere influence of a higher or lower rate of duty *could* reach it, the product is inferior. It is inferior in growth; consequently there is no denying the assumption that the cause of inferiority is in the want of proper cultivation. There never was a statement so completely borne out by fact, or capable of such clear and convincing illustration. The history of the article of indigo, is the most astonishing example of the results of different orders of cultivation, that it is in human power to adduce. Of all the productions of India, it is the only one to which British enterprise or capital has been applied; and of all those productions, it has been the only one which has been able to maintain its place in the market, or what is more, to chase from the market every other description. Its cultivation takes place, for the most part, in the Presidency of Bengal; occupying upwards of one million statute acres, and yielding an annual result of from £2,000,000 to £3,000,000 sterling. It is even asserted that the supply exceeds the demand, and for the English market, alone, we believe this to be the case; but it is not to be forgotten, that, through its superior excellence, it has found its way all over the Continent of Europe, and that France, Germany, and Holland, are its purchasers. And this is precisely as the case should be; this is precisely the extensive field of speculation which the British capitalist enters upon, the moment he embarks in any branch of Indian agriculture. The same results which have attended the application of British skill with its concomitant of capital, in this instance, must, there is not a reasonable thought to the contrary, attend it in every other. What an adequate culture has done for indigo, may likewise be effected for sugar, silk, cotton, opium, besides the million other productions of the same region, which are impossible to particularise from their very number. We are at the mercy of America for cotton, at the caprice of Italy for silk, above all, we are dependent on slavery for sugar, while our dominions in Asia, under the three contingencies of favorable soil and climate, and rebundant population, capable of yielding these things in their perfection, are utterly overlooked. But that they are, and have been, disregarded, is no reason why they should not now be brought into notice. To err, all nations, like individuals, are liable; but let us hasten to redeem ourselves from the error; let us hasten to do good to India and ourselves. Sugar, which, in reality, may be described as the staple of Hindostan, is the instance, above all, to which we would direct the consideration of capitalists. From calculations, which we shall have it in our power to submit on an early occasion, it will be seen that India is able to produce sufficient of this article for the consumption of the whole world. That there is no exaggeration in this assertion we shall immediately convince, by showing the extensive tracts in which it is at present cultivated, and the regions eminently favorable, in point of soil and climate, whither its cultivation might be carried.

At present the whole Grangetic Plain, on an area of 170,000 square miles, is the portion where the growth of the cane may be referred to, as forming a branch of husbandry; that it flourishes in other parts is equally true, but as an article of husbandry, its existence may be recorded only in the more densely populated districts. At the same time the territories, whither its cultivation might be carried, are the province of Guzerat, the table-land between the two Ghauts, and the valleys of the Nerbuddah and Indus. The truth is, the greater part of sugar consumed in India is not from the cane, but different varieties of palm. But cane sugar would immediately supersede the use of the latter, if it could be procured at as cheap a rate. There is another exemplification of the poverty of India. It is so poor, it cannot aval itself of the blessings which an almost spontaneous nature has afforded it! But, surely, here then is the field for British capital. It is not the *growth* of the cane that requires the auxiliaries of the art, but, as the West India slave-driver so well knows, it is its manufacture. In extracting sugar from palms, the whole labour is confined to a process of boiling, at a cost of but one penny per lb., or little more than half what is necessary to the manufacture of the dulcorific matter of the cane. It is produced thus from palms in the whole southern peninsula of India, in the Burmese and Siamese empires, in Cambodia, Tonquin, and the Eastern islands.—*Oriental Herald.*

From the United States Gazette.

REVIEW OF THE WEATHER, &c. FOR NOVEMBER, 1838.

During three days of the month just closed, an occurrence took place in the Empire State, which was as unexpected to its inhabitants as it was astonishing to the whole of Uncle Sam's most loyal subjects. Indeed, nothing has occurred to excite the admiration of this whole country so much since the reception of the cheering intelligence of the death of the Sub-Treasury bill! A storm having been brewing for a long time, the period at length arrived when it should burst forth in all its fury. The clouds had been gradually gathering and becoming darker and darker, until the sympathy of the neighbouring country was awakened, and serious apprehensions were felt for the fate of the devoted state. They watched the conflicting elements, and when at length the hurricane burst forth in all its terrific violence, great was the anxiety to know the issue. But how quickly was fear turned into joy, and mourning into rejoicing, on finding that the storm had merely purified the atmosphere of its foul effluvia; at the same time inflicting a desperate wound upon the Bird of Kinderhook, which has kept him fluttering ever since; and notwithstanding the medical skill of Fanny Wright, and the whole budget of nostrums which the Globe has prescribed, have been assiduously administered by the excellent nurses, who are liberally led by Treasury pap, yet the wound is pronounced to be inevitably mortal, and the poor bird will have to expire on the 4th of March, 1840, being just four years from the time it was received into the white cage at Washington!

Old Ironsides, Massachusetts, still continues invulnerable to every attack of Loco Focoism. Yes, this state, which has kept the Cradle of Liberty rocking for 70 years, took but one solitary day to manifest to the world that she was still true to the principles of '76, by electing, by overwhelming majorities, such officers to preside in and direct her councils, at prefer their country's good, to all the visionary "Experiments" which the White House Cabinet at Washington could devise.

In the New England States, the 29th of this month was observed as a day of Thanksgiving and praise to the Author of all our mercies and blessings. In Gov. Kent's proclamation, recommending the observance of the day, he very appropriately says—"As we assemble around the table of God's bounty, on this, our annual festival, and remember, in gratitude and thanksgiving, His mercies to us as a people and as individuals, in our social and domestic relations, let us remember, in kindness and sympathy, the poor, the oppressed, and the destitute; let us cherish those kind and benevolent affections, which shall lead us to smooth the rough paths of life, regarding each other in the spirit of charity, as brethren of one common Father, and bound together by the indissoluble ties of a common nature, and a common destiny."

As an evidence that there has been an abundant corn harvest this year in the west, we give the following from a correct source: a government contractor has purchased thirty thousand bushels, to be delivered on the banks of the Missouri, at fifteen cents per bushels. No wonder that the western states increase so rapidly by emigration.

Accounts from Louisiana, of a late date, say that the crop of sugar will be abundant. And we have had proof positive that the crop of potatoes at the east has been super-abundant, as more than 200,000 bushels have been brought to this city since the 1st of October. Beside all that have been purchased by families, hotels, almshouses, penitentiaries, manufactories, &c. it is computed there are more than 100,000 bushels stored; having been bought on speculation, by huxters, &c.

Since the 12th of September, at which time the excessive heat and drought ceased, we have had several cold spells of weather, and a great excess of rain, with about half a dozen slight falls of snow. But in several of the New England States, it has, at different times, been of sufficient depth to afford good sleighing. The interior of Pennsylvania also, had her full share as early as the 31st of October, when the snow fell at Erie ten inches; and in Mercer and several other counties, in less quantities, as well as in Ohio, Indiana, Missouri, and other western states. And at the north, in the interior of New York and Vermont, the ground has been covered as in the depth of winter. In Buffalo, it has been twelve inches deep. On the first of November, the cold was so severe at New Haven and Hartford, (Conn.) that the mercury sunk 14 degrees below the freezing point, and snow fell several inches in depth.

The 25th of the month, was as cold as has occurred in the month of November since our remembrance. From sunrise until sunset, the mercury rested opposite 18, after which it gradually sunk until past 11 o'clock, when it was at 13. Fourteen miles north of the city, it was five degrees lower. And in the interior of New York, the papers say, that the mercury was down to zero.

The average of the mercury at sunrise, during the month just closed was at 35. At 2 o'clock, (mid-day) the average was 45; but, taking the average of each twenty-four hours during the month, it was 40. The corresponding month of last year at sunrise, was 39, and at 2 o'clock, 55; but the average of the whole month, was 47. The quantity of rain which fell during the month was 3¼. In October it fell 5 inches, and in September it fell 9½ inches, making 17¾ inches, during the three autumnal months.

A violent gale was experienced on Lake Erie on the 5th of November, and great damage done to the shipping.

There were terrible storms and gales, and even hurricanes experienced the other side of the Atlantic, the fore part of the autumn, in which great damage was sustained, both on the land and on the sea. On the 18th of October, says the Bristol (Eng.) Journal, a dreadful storm of wind, and snow, and rain, and sleet, made awful havoc in the north; trees and chimneys were blown down; gates, railings, and windows, dashed away, and great damage done to the shipping, &c. Another storm occurred on the night of the 28th of October, of a most terrific nature, in the city of London, and sweeping the whole northern and eastern coast of England, with fearful violence, unroofing houses, blowing down chimneys, trees, &c. but as the particulars have been given in all our daily papers, it is unnecessary to recapitulate them.

Philadelphia, Dec. 1, 1838. C. P.

From Chambers' Edinburgh Journal.

THE DEAD-HOUSE OF PARIS.

La Morgue (or the Dead-House) of Paris, is a retired gloomy building, situated on that part of the left bank of the Seine, which lies between the city quay and that of Grlevres. The object of the establishment, as its name partly implies, is to receive the bodies of all those who have come to a violent end, by land or water, and either to retain them till they are claimed by friends, or to bury them if they remain unknown. It is strange how the existence of this building influences the district in its immediate vicinity. La Morgue is the centre point of attraction, the source of news and novelty. The neighbours there talk not of politics or revolutions. "A fine corpse was that brought in this morning." "He was fair, was'nt he?" "Did you see the girl to-day?" "What long black hair she had! It trailed on the ground as she passed on the hurdle!" Such is the general nature of the gossip in the neighbourhood of the Dead-House.

I visited La Morgue twice. On the first occasion, Francois, the receiver of the bodies, could not show the establishment to me in the absence of the recorder, M. Perrin. These two persons dwell with their families in the upper floor of this house of death, and have the sole charge of it. Francois, with whom I became somewhat familiar, desired me to return at a certain time, nd I should see the whole. Accordingly, I went again to La Morgue.

"Ah, you are there!" said Francois, rising to receive me, and introducing me to his wife and another person who was present. "This is a neighbour," continued Francois, alluding to the latter individual, "who comes, out of sheer friendship, to help me when I require assistance, and on this morning his services have been much required. Your visit has been timed most luckily, sir. We have to-day a woman who hanged herself with her garters; a man who has been four hours in the water, and a third, a little female child, an infant, whe was suffocated last night by accident in a stage coach. They mistook her for a packet, and crushed her. Poor thing! how lovely she is!"

"Ah!" said the wife of Francois, "perhaps she had a mother, who waited anxiously for her return from the country! By the by, Francois, where did you lay her? On the dissection table!"

"No no; why, what use could there be in opening her? Who could think of that dear little child having been poisoned? Go and look at her; she is as clean as if she had come out of a bath. And then the young nurse, who brought her here in her apron, wept as if the little one had been her own. She told me that she had been returning from her native village in Normandy, whither she had gone to nurse the child, and that the stage coach, in which she was, was so full of people that she was compelled to put her little nursling between her knees. She was then much fatigued, having slept none for two days. When night came she fell asleep. The child slipt from her grasp—she slept still. The child moved, and perhaps cried, but the rattle of the coach stifled the sound, and the nurse slept on. In the morning when she awoke, she found that she had but the body of her babe?" "Is this all, Francois?" said his wife.

"The rest may be conceived. On reaching Paris where the mother lives, the nurse durst not go to the house, and thus she thought of bringing the body here for interment. But she would scarcely part with the child. She kissed its cold brow, she kissed its hands, she kissed its shoulders, its feet, saying all the while, Oh, can it be true that she is dead, sir!' Then she gave the body to me, took it back again, shook it, called it by its name, and strove with her fingers to open its eyes. 'Oh! do you know no way to open its eyes for me? Ah! they were such pretty eyes, so round, so blue! Its eyes! My girl had blue eyes like her mother—oh, she will kill me, that mother! I will tell her the child died from its teething; but all our village will say it is not true. I will say they took her from me in the coach; but the coachman will say it is not true. No, no; I will tell nothing. I will go back to my village, and wait till her parents come to see the child. Perhaps they may not come for three—for six months—perhaps not for a whole year! But ah! I can never go back to my village—never more, if I have not my infant, my little Leonore.'"

Here Francois interrupted his account of the poor nurses's exclamations, to tell his wife to note the name of Leonore. "Remember, wife, to repeat it to Monsieur Perrin, that he may inscribe it in his register." Francois then resumed the nurse's soliloquising.

"'Ah, I cannot return to my village in Normandy. Every body there was so fond of my Leonore. Sugar plums and cakes were showered upon her. Monsieur the Curate was distracted about my girl! Oh! sir, could we not bleed her, and bring her back? Or put her feet into warm water? Ah, you know many cases of children being restored—dont' you now? Ah, you do! No! Oh, tell me—tell me what to do! Her mother will kill me, yes, certainly she will kill me! Or if I go home to my village, they will stone me—they will throw dirt upon me like a toad! Oh, sir, bring my Leonore back to me, and I will—yes, I—I will give her to you!'"

Francois paused, and then continued in his own words, "When it was absolutely necessary to depart, the nurse again kissed the infant's cheeks, and besought leave from me to take away with her the cap and kerchief that were upon it. It is not our custom to permit this, but I was always too soft-hearted. I bade her take them, and, after snatching them up, the poor woman threw her apron over the babe's features, and ran out of the house." This was all Francois had to say about the nurse and child, and his wife summed up by the remark, "You see, one ought always to take two places in such a case in a stage coach." This was all Madame Francois thought about the matter.

A knock at the door was now heard, and Francois, opening it, introduced M. Perrin, the recorder of La Morgue, a little old man, who coughed incessantly. He politely professed his willingness to show me his establishment, and away we went for that purpose. We went up a flight of steps, and, in doing so, were obliged to stand by the wall, in order to allow a bevy of showy, pretty young girls to pass us. "These are four of my daughters," said M. Perrin, "I have eight children. Francois has had four, and he has been so fortunate as to see them all married. He is a good father, Francois."

So (thought I) twelve children have been born in the Dead-House! Conjugal and domestic joys, marriages and baptisms, love, religion, virtue, all have a place in this funeral above, as well as elsewhere. Meanwhile we passed on through chambers which it is not my purpose to describe, until we came to the administrative cabinet or registry-office of M. Perrin. I asked and received permission to look over the book containing the records of the dead. It was in double columns, the one for the known and the other for the unknown. The numbers of the unknown greatly predominated. Such entries as these were abundant: "Brought at three in the morning: skull fractured; *unknown*.—Brought at midnight; drowned under the Bridge of Arts; a pack of cards in the pocket: *unknown*—Child newly born, found dead from cold, at the door of a hotel; *unknown*." And so on.

"Ah!" said M. Perrin to me, "don't you find our registers kept very nicely now? My hand does tremble a little, but you may see that it is still a firm handwriting for my age. I have cultivated a flowing dash with some success. There is a capital M now—neatly turned, is it not?"

Good, simple man! Proud only of the turn of a capital letter, whilst heedless of the fact, that that very letter was the commencement of a *prince's* name, of a name inscribed upon an Italian coinage. How came the name of a prince into the pages of a dead-house register? I remember the occasion, though I know not the cause. One night when a proud mansion was lighted up in Paris, when its magnificent halls were crowded with the gay and fashionable, all thinking only of life and its enjoyments, a domestic, with a haggard look, rushed up the mistress of the dwelling, who was snrrounded by the guests entertained by her in her husband's temporary absence. The lady had no sooner listened to her servant than she flew from the assembly. The music ceased, the dancers stopped, whispers passed among the crowd, a voice cried "to La Morgue!" and away rushed the whole, some of them uncloaked, some with their very heads uncovered, and all in confusion. A strange sight it was to see that lately brilliant throng flying in disorder through the open streets, in a night of storm and darkness. They reached La Morgue one by one; and there stretched on a table they beheld the lord of the mansion they had left, cold and lifeless. The body of the Prince —— had been found in a wood in the environs of the capital. How he died was undiscovered. But, opposite to his name the register, there was, as M. Perrin made me remark, the words *well known*.

To return, however, to M. Perrin. From the chamber of registry we went to another apartment, that in which the *clothes* of the dead were kept. There they hung upon the wall, of all forms, kinds, and dimensions; hideously coupled together; a spatterdash joined by a pin to a sleeve, of a shawl resting upon the collar of a man's coat; dresses of gentlemen, ladies, workmen, and, in short, of every class, mingled togethhr, all dirty and defaced, and exciting the most painful impressions in the mind. One could even mark the aprons of the workmen still rolled up, and showing that death had surprised them at the end of a day's common toil.

Francois, who followed my eyes in looking at these objects, in order to observe the effect made by them upon me, here drew a profound sigh. "What! *you* then are moved at this sight?" said I to him; "your condition is unsatisfactory—repugnant to you, then, is it?"

"Not precisely that, sir," replied Francois. "But you must know, sir, that hitherto the clothes of the Unknowns have fallen to us after being exposed for six months. We then sell them. Now they speak of *taking the clothes from us!*"

Strange callousness of habit! I consoled Francois by the assurance that neither the governmet nor the world at large spoke of taking away the perquisite of the clothes. From this apartment we now went to the room where the bodies are exposed; and here, upon a marble table, its sole furniture, I beheld the three bonies spoken of. The infant which had fallen from the grasp of its poor nurse, and been suffocated in the stagecoach, was beautiful! The other bodies were disogreeable objects, and I hurried from the sight of them.

I said to M. Perrin, when he came to his register room again, that I feared he must find his situation tedious in the long nights of winter. "No, no," said he, in a lively tone, "my daughters sing, and work; Francois and I join our wives at a game of picquet. The misfortune is, that our little party is often put into disorder. A knock comes below: we are obliged to descend, to receive and undress the new comer, and to put the case in the register. This disturbs our game; *we forget to make the points.*"

"But your daughters, are they perfectly—."

"Oh! you mistake much, if you imagine that the common spectacles to be seen here distress them at all," said M. Perrin. "They pass the night here with the greatest composure and cheerfulness. One grows to any thing."

He might well say so. The rooms which his family occupied were in the floor immediately above that where the bodies were laid. Nay, the piano of the young ladies stood directly above the table on which the unfortunates were exposed, before being reclaimed or buried. So much was I struck with the wonderful *searing* of habit in this instance, that I could not help fancying it possible for these girls—so familiar with the idea of dead bodies, so accustomed to the domestic spectacle of their existence—to forget themselves on some occasions, and to ask strangers whom they visited, just as one would inquire for a garden or a kitchen, "But where do you keep your dead bodies here?"

I now prepared to leave La Morgue. After bidding farewell to M. Perrin and Francois, they opened the gate for me, and I was about to issue, when I was driven back by an advancing crowd. These people were following or rather surrounding a man, who was wheeling a barrow to the door of La Morgue. As it entered, a track of water marked the course of the vehicle. The cover which was over the body—for body it was which the barrow contained—was taken off, and it was plain that the young woman who lay there had died recently, from the clasped hands and compressed lips. From one of her hands Francois found some difficulty in withdrawing a kerchief which she held. He had no sooner got it, than he cried, "Good heavens! let me look at this woman!"

He gazed for a moment at her countenance, and exclaimed "It is she!"

"Who? what she!"

"The visitor of the morning—the Norman nurse!" was the reply of Francois. I had been affected by the story, and was more so now, when I saw what despair had driven the poor nurse to. Francois said quietly, "Ah! well, we shall lay her beside the body of the little one."

M. Perrin put on his spectacles, opened his register, and wrote with a superb dash, "UNKNOWN!"

TIGHT-LACING IN SOUTH AFRICA.

It appears that this species of bodily torture is not confined entirely to civilized nations, but is common among the ignorant and squalid apologies for humanity who inhabit the south-western region of the land of roaring lions, hungry hyenas, raging rhinoceroses, barbarous baboons, and putrescent polecats. The African Venuses, however, have not yet attained to that high degree of refinement which enables them to undergo the most excruciating bodily suffering, for the sake of *improving* the appearance of the forms with which Nature has endowed them. The oxen—not the women—suffer this disagreeable operation in Africa, and for very useful purposes. The ox, with the Namaquas, is a beast of burden, and the following is the manner in which the burden is attached to him, as described by Capt. Alexander. The head of the animal is held by the thong of the nose stick, and two or three sheep skins are placed on his back by two men on each side of him. Then a few turns of a stout thong (about 20 yards in length) are taken round the skins, and then against the sides of the ox are placed the packages, which are secured very tightly with the remainder of the thong, by the men placing their knees against the ox, and drawing the thong so tight that the poor animal looks, after the operation is completed, as if he would be cut in two behind the fore legs! This is a specimen of tight-lacing in Africa.

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